MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

12 OCTOBER 1982

PLO

'Arafat Talks in Jordan -- At the first round of talks on 9 October between PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat and Jordan's King Husayn, the two sides made a general assessment of the Fes Arab summit resolutions. They discussed political action for an Israeli withdrawal from the "occupied territories" as well as the Jordanian-Palestinian "special relationship," Amman radio reported. According to the JORDAN TIMES, PLO sources said a formula for joint action was worked out the first day. The strategy calls for the formation of committees to promote a joint accord. The paper reports that this strategy will soon be put before the Palestine National Council. The paper also says that on 10 October the two leaders discussed details of the joint formula. Citing an informed source, the Kuwaiti paper AL-QABAS asserted that the talks dealt with specifics for a joint federation, including separate passports and armies.

At an 11 October meeting in Amman of members of the PLO Executive Committee, Central Council and Palestine National Council, 'Arafat stated that his talks were "very positive" and stressed that Jordanian-Palestinian relations are "close," Amman television reported. 'Arafat added that King Husayn sent an envoy to Lebanon to ask the Lebanese Army to stop the "harassment" of Palestinians. That day, 'Arafat met with Jordanian Prime Minister Mudar Badran to discuss relations, and both sides called for increased Arab support for the Palestinians, the television noted. At a gathering at the PLO's Amman office, 'Arafat warned that fighting will soon erupt in the Al-Biqa' Valley and that "big surprises" are coming, San'a' Voice of Palestine radio said.

In another development, a source cited by Beirut radio affirmed that 'Arafat and King Husayn will visit the USSR and the PRC together to brief these countries on the Arab peace plan.

PLO Stands on Confederation, Reagan Plan -- In an interview with Monte Carlo radio, Khalid al-Hasan, chairman of the Palestine National Council's Foreign Relations Committee expressed support for a Palestinian-Jordanian confederation. Although he praised various points in the Reagan plan, he insisted that an Israeli withdrawal from the "occupied territories" must precede any elections in Palestine. He stressed that the question of recognition of other states is only possible within the context of an established state.

PLO spokesman Mahmud al-Labadi declared in Amman that the PLO is prepared to negotiate with the United States on the basis of the Reagan peace plan, because the PLO recognizes U.S. influence on Israel, Cairo radio reported. He added that the PLO is inclined toward a Palestinian-Jordanian federation after a Palestinian state has been formed. PLO Executive Committee official Ahmad Sidqi ad-Dajani said in an AL-AHRAM interview cited by MENA that the PLO Executive Council will meet in Tunis to define its policy and to discuss the Reagan initiative.

Rome Synagogue Attack

One child was killed and 30 persons injured when terrorists launched a gun and grenade attack against worshippers at a Rome synagogue on 9 October, ANSA reported. The report noted that the unidentified attackers escaped. According to San'a' Voice of Palestine, PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat sent a cable to the Italian president expressing sorrow over the crime. The PLO representative in Italy condemned the attack and stressed PLO solidarity with the Jewish community regarding this "horrible assault," AFP reported. However, Aden Voice of Palestine radio said the envoy blamed "Zionist intelligence" for the crime in its attempt to undermine the Palestinian struggle. Monte Carlo radio said the "Fire Group of the PLO," belonging to the Red Brigades organization, claimed responsibility for the attack. Jerusalem radio reported that the Israeli Foreign Ministry strongly condemned the attack. MA'ARIV disclosed through Jerusalem political sources that Israel blames Italy for the crime because it ignored warnings of such attacks and indirectly encouraged such events by supporting the PLO.

Israel

A 10 October Cabinet statement, reported by IDF radio, asserted that Israel still desires a peace agreement with Lebanon, although the Cabinet secretary emphasized that this is not a precondition for an IDF withdrawal. In the statement, Israel called for immediate negotiations to remove all foreign forces from Lebanon and stressed that the IDF and Syrians should leave simultaneously after the withdrawal of "terrorists" from Al-Biqa' and northern Lebanon. Before the evacuation, it declared, the IDF must receive all dead and captured IDF soldiers and security arrangements must be made for southern Lebanon. Jerusalem radio revealed that these arrangements will include a role for the Lebanese Army and Christian militia commander Sa'd Haddad. The radio noted that there is optimism for a Lebanese-Israeli peace agreement and that specifics for a plan for Lebanon will be discussed at the 13 October Cabinet session. Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon told the Cabinet that there must be a peace settlement with Lebanon and accused the United States of "sabotaging" Israeli-Lebanese attempts at negotiations, according to the radio, which noted that some ministers objected to this accusation.

Meanwhile, a Foreign Ministry spokesman insisted that Israel still demands the withdrawal of the PLO from Lebanon before an IDF departure begins, Jerusalem radio asserted. The radio said officials affirmed that the United States does not oppose this position.

Lebanon

An Israeli officer was wounded when gunmen fired at an IDF patrol in 'Alayh on 10 October, IDF radio reported. While Jerusalem radio said the Israeli was caught in the crossfire between warring Phalangist and Druze militias, Voice of Lebanon radio cited a WAFA report that the Palestinian-Lebanese joint forces claimed responsibility for the attack. Earlier, ITIM and the Israeli paper 'AL HAMISHMAR reported that the Phalangists and the Druze had engaged in violent clashes involving killings and kidnappings.

In the wake of alleged cease-fire violations in the eastern sector, Israeli military sources cited by IDF radio on 11 October said the Syrians have again granted permission to the "terrorists" to operate against the IDF in the Al-Biqa' area. Although Voice of Lebanon radio cited reports of Palestinian withdrawals from northern Lebanon, DFLP Secretary General Nayif Hawatimah stressed in an interview reported by AFP that the Palestinian forces will remain in eastern and northern Lebanon until the Israelis leave and the Palestinian civilians in Lebanon are given Lebanese, Arab and UN guarantees.

Meanwhile, the Lebanese Army continued its search for arms, wanted people and illegal immigrants in West Beirut, Beirut radio reported. According to army command communiques reported by the radio and by the Voice of Lebanon, 96 persons were arrested in these security operations 9-11 October. The clandestine Voice of Arab Lebanon radio accused the army of a "campaign of harassment" against West Beirut residents and criticized the authorities for failing to implement security measures in East Beirut. However, the radio subsequently reported that Phalangist Party leader Pierre al-Jumayyil has accepted the security plan for East Beirut and has invited the government to deploy the army there, asserting that anyone who opposes the security plan is a "traitor and an Israeli agent." According to the Voice of Lebanon, the Phalangist leader stressed to his party's Political Bureau and Central Council the need to maintain discipline and facilitate the government's efforts to restore its control over all Lebanese territory without exception. An earlier AFP report indicated that the plan to uncover arms caches in East Beirut has been delayed by the opposition of Christian militia.

A Phalangist Party official was among a number of Lebanese men recently released by Syrian authorities, according to Voice of Lebanon radio.

Syria

President Hafiz al-Asad and British Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs Francis Pym met in Damascus on 10 October to discuss the Middle East situation, Damascus radio reported. Al-Asad stressed the European role in influencing U.S. opinion and asserted that if the United States is serious in working for peace it should stop supplying arms to Israel. Meanwhile, Syrian Information Minister Ahmad Iskandar Ahmad told a Damascus press conference that the latest U.S. peace plan is a "retreat" from previous U.S. positions on the Middle East and cited various examples of Reagan plan deficiencies, according to Monte Carlo radio reports. He conceded that the Fes Arab summit peace plan refers to Israel in one of its articles. This concession was later dismissed as "insignificant" by Israeli sources cited by IDF radio. On PLO leader 'Arafat's visit to Jordan, Iskandar Ahmad said Syria believes no one is entitled to deal unilaterally with the Palestinian cause and all PLO decisions must have Executive Committee approval. He said there is no problem in Syria's relations with Lebanon and described its relations with the USSR as "excellent," adding that Soviet weapons are "trustworthy." He admitted that the air force is weak but asserted that Syrian weaponry will soon equal U.S. quality. He described relations with the United States as an "open dialogue between two contradictory sides." While stressing that all IDF soldiers must leave Lebanon before Syrian troops withdraw, he asserted that the PLO withdrawal is an issue for the Lebanese Government to resolve with the PLO. Iskandar Ahmad told the NEW YORK TIMES that Syria will recognize Israel if the Israelis withdraw from the Golan Heights and occupied Arab territores and recognize Palestinian rights, the radio also reported.

Saudi-Iranian Pilgrims Dispute

Riyadh radio announced on 8 October that 69 Iranian pilgrims were arrested and deported for chanting political slogans that violated Islamic rites. It added that the gathering near Medina was instigated by Iranian pilgrim affairs supervisor Mohammad Hoseyn Musavi-Kho'ini. Tehran radio alleged that Saudi forces carried out a "savage attack" and injured a number of pilgrims, but this was denied by the Saudi interior minister in a statement cited by SPA. The Saudi minister asserted that the Iranians were disturbing other pilgrims and that the troubles were instigated by leaders of the Iranian group. The minister also revealed that Musavi-Kho'ini and 140 of his followers had been deported by late 9 October.

The Saudi envoy in Tehran was summoned by an Iranian Foreign Ministry official to receive a protest note on the expulsion of pilgrims and the "barbarous attacks" by Saudi police, which the official said only promote the interests of "arrogance and Zionism," Tehran radio reported. The Islamic Consultative Assembly, in a statement cited by IRNA, warned Saudi Arabia to learn from what happened to the ex-shah of Iran, who relied on U.S. support and was allied with Israel. In another development, Ayatollah Hoseyn 'Ali Montazeri sent a message to Islamic scholars criticizing the "American Saudi regime" for the arrest and deportation of Iranian pilgrims. The message, carried by Tehran radio, asserted that a council of representatives of Islamic nations must be appointed to administer the holy places of Mecca and Medina in place of the current control by "Satan."

Iran-Iraq War

An Iranian military communique carried by Tehran radio announced on 10 October that an Iraqi fighter was shot down inside Iraq, but this was later denied by an Iraqi military official cited by INA. IRNA reported that Iranian forces killed 20 Iraqis and destroyed 13 tanks near Sumar on 9 October. Iraqi communiques carried by INA asserted that the air force flew 114 combat missions over the Mandali region on 8 October and downed an Iranian Phantom after a dogfight near Ilam 2 days later. Another communique carried by Baghdad radio said that 54 Iranians died in the central battle sector, while Iraqi Air Force raids continued near Mandali and "deep" inside Iran. Meanwhile, an 11 October Iranian communique carried by Tehran radio announced that an Iraqi MiG-23 was shot down in the western sector.

On the diplomatic front, Iraqi President Saddam Husayn declared that Iraq has no preconditions for a peace agreement with Iran, adding that what is necessary is mutual respect for sovereignty, INA reported.

Egypt

Mubarak Diplomacy -- President Husni Mubarak flew to Khartoum on 12 October for a 2-day visit during which he will sign an Egyptian-Sudanese integration charter with Sudanese President Ja'far Numayri, MENA reported. The previous day, Mubarak received visiting British Foreign Secretary Pym, MENA noted.

Suspects Released -- Fifty-eight detainees arrested on suspicion of involvement in the "Al-Jihad" plot to overthrow the government were released on 10 October, AFP reported, citing Egyptian newspapers.

Gulf Defense

GCC defense ministers met in Riyadh 10-11 October for their second conference, according to SPA. KUNA said the ministers held lengthy discussions on security cooperation. Meanwhile, a Riyadh radio commentary said the GCC countries must not merely achieve a balance with hostile forces but must attain military superiority over them.

FBIS DAILY REPORT

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'ARAFAT ADDRESSES APPEAL TO ARAB LEADERS

GF081958 San'a' Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1600 GMT 8 Oct 82

["Text" of message by PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat to Arab leaders on measures taken by Lebanese Army against Palestinians -- date not given -- read by announcer]

[Text] Amid these dire and difficult circumstances and following the sanguinary and savage massacre perpetrated by the Zionist enemy with the support, approval and backing of the U.S. administration in the camps in Beirut and especially against the Palestinian refugees residing in the camps, we were surprised today by the continuation of this campaign against the Palestinians by the Lebanese Army, also with the approval, support and blessing of the U.S. administration. It is as if this campaign were organized and being carried out by all these [parties] in an annihilation drive and as if our people in Lebanon were experimental subjects for all these sick, inhumane and savage acts in which all take turns according to a wicked plan which is aimed at striking at the spirit of struggle of the people and the vehemence of jihad of the masses, in addition to the diabolic scheme of expulsion and deportation from Lebanon this plan is aimed at achieving.

I appeal to the Arab kings, presidents and amirs to step in promptly to stop these actions and practices by the Lebanese Army against our people in Lebanon and in the refugee camps there.

It is unreasonable that our people, who have paid a heavy blood [toll] with the Lebanese people in defense of Lebanese territory against the Zionist invaders, are being confronted with this vindictive campaign. This army's function should not be expulsion but rather confrontation of the Israeli enemy; it should not be carrying out this inhumane U.S.-Zionist campaign against our people.

Out of my responsibility for the masses of our struggling people who have suffered enough at the hands of the Zionist enemy, I repeat my appeal and request to all Arab leaders to put an end to this hell in which our struggling people are living under these difficult circumstances.

I have always hoped that the new Lebanese regime which wants to rebuild Lebanon will rebuild it on fraternal basis and free from such vindictive actions and serious practices and that the commitment to what had been agreed upon before the departure of our armed forces Lebanon will be the basis for this and not the settling of accounts which only serves the Zionist enemy. In this regard, I place the full responsibility on the multinational forces due to their participation in, supervision of and keeping silent on these acts, because it is unfair that our people should be a victim of this sledgehammer.

In light of this, the Palestinian leadership appeals to the entire Arab nation to exert all effort in order to stand by our people in these dire times. At the same time, we will bear the responsibilities incumbent upon us to confront and stop these actions if a prompt end is not put to them in order to protect our women, children and people.

It is a revolution until victory!

GROUP ATTEMPTS TO REJECT ISRAEL'S UN CREDENTIALS

LD090900 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 0715 GMT 9 Oct 82

[Text] The United Nations, 8 Oct (SPA) -- The Arab and the Islamic Conference Organization group last night held a joint meeting with the purpose of coordinating their efforts for rejecting Israel's credentials to the international organization.

The Arab group yesterday decided to set up a contact group regarding this matter, which includes Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Iraq, Jordan, Tunisia, Libya and the PLO.

The Islamic group subcommittee on the Middle East and Palestine set up a contact group to oppose accrediting Israel to the United Nations. This contact group includes Pakistan, Senegal, Malaysia, Guinea and the PLO.

PALESTINIAN COUNCIL TO DISCUSS REAGAN INITIATIVE

NC120802 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0635 GMT 12 Oct 82

[Text] Cairo, 12 Oct (MENA) -- Dr Ahmad Sidqi ad-Dajani, member of the Palestine National Council [PNC] and of the PLO Executive Committee, has said that the PLO Executive Council will present to the PNC at its next meeting in Tunis the principled stands on the current proposals, including the initiative of U.S. President Ronald Reagan. He said that at the meeting the PNC will define the policy which the PLO will adopt in the future on the Arab and international levels.

In an interview published in the newspaper AL-AHRAM today, Ad-Dajani affirmed that recent events have shown that the PLO is capable of steadfastness and that it is capable of mobilizing its popular energies. However, it has been proved that the alliances on which the PLO was wagering failed to abide by the anticipated commitments. Ad-Dajani said: Therefore, the PLO must put an end to the defect relating to assessment of these alliances on the one hand and ways of ratifying them on the other.

Ad-Dajani called for the necessity of drawing up new bases for organizing Arab action and for reviewing the attitude toward Egypt and toward the bilateral axes now that recent events have proved the failure of the present formula linking the Arab states in the joint action.

PLO SPOKESMAN: PLO READY TO NEGOTIATE WITH U.S.

NC120737 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0500 GMT 12 Oct 82

[Text] PLO spokesman Mahmud al-Labadi has stated in Amman that the PLO feels that there is room to set up a federal union between Jordan and the Palestinian state that will be established in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank following their recovery from Israel.

Al-Labadi said: The PLO's basic objective is to ensure Israel's withdrawal and its recognition of the Palestinians' right to self-determination as well as to establish a Palestinian state on the lands that will be recovered. Talks will then follow on a linkage with Jordan, or a federal union with that state.

The spokesman added that 'Arafat's talks in Jordan touched on some points. However, he said, no final agreement has been reached on any of these points.

The Palestinian spokesman noted that the PLO stands prepared to negotiate with the United States on the basis of President Reagan's initiative for peace in the Middle East. This is because the PLO believes that the United States is the sole power capable of putting pressure on Israel to induce it to withdraw from the occupied Arab territory. However, Al-Labadi said: Washington is not desirous of negotiating with the PLO.

Jordanian officials have stated that King Husayn is trying to secure a mandate from the PLO to talk on its behalf during his coming visit to Washington, adding that 'Arafat hesitated to give the king this right because he fears the obdurate trends within the PLO.

Knowledgeable sources have said that Jordan insists that the PLO should recognize Israel within its pre-1967 borders, and that this point was also raised at the Husayn-'Arafat talks.

PLO OFFICIAL CONDEMNS ROME SYNAGOGUE ATTACK

JN091525 Monte Carlo Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1500 GMT 9 Oct 82

[Text] The PLO representatives in Italy today condemned the attack on a Jewish synagogue in Rome and said: The PLO strongly condemns the criminal attack which took place this morning against the innocent Jewish brothers who were attacked only because they are Jews. He expressed his full solidarity with the Jewish community and the victims' families. He also expressed the hope that the competent authorities will trace and arrest the perpetrators as soon as possible.

Aden VOP Report

GF101936 Aden Voice of Palestine Arabic 1815 GMT 10 Oct 82

[Text] The PLO today condemned the aggression against the Jewish synagogue, which was launched by an armed group in Rome. In a statement, the director of the PLO office in Rome, Brother Nimir Hammad, accused Zionist intelligence of planning such aggressions in Rome, Paris and in other countries. He added that Zionist intelligence is always doing such things in an attempt to undermine the struggle of our Palestinian people against the Zionist occupation of Palestine, which is aimed at establishing the independent Palestinian state. Brother Nimir Hammad affirmed that Zionist intelligence is trying to smash the political victory achieved by the Palestinian people in Lebanon and to cover the ugly face of the Zionist government, which perpetrated massacres of civilian Palestinians in Sabra and Shatila camps in West Beirut.

'Arafat Condolences

GF111819 San'a' Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1600 GMT 11 Oct 82

[Text] Brother leader Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] expressed his denunciation and sorrow over the crime that took place the day before yesterday in Italy which was aimed at worshippers in the Jewish temple in Rome.

In a condolence cable sent to Italian President Alessandro Pertini, Brother Abu 'Ammar said that the criminal operation against Italian Jewish worshippers [words indistinct] a great deal. He expressed to the Italian president, in his name and on behalf of the PLO's Executive Committee, his sincere condolences while recollecting that the Palestinian people have suffered and are still suffering from criminal actions against their children, particularly the massacre that was carried out in Lebanon. Brother Abu 'Ammar indicated in his cable that the PLO considers all these decisively against these savage actions, whether the victims are those innocent citizens in Italy or those in the Palestinian camps in Lebanon.

NAYIF HAWATIMAH DISCUSSES LEBANON WITHDRAWAL

NC120631 Paris AFP in English 0620 GMT 12 Oct 82

[Text] Damascus, Oct 12 (AFP) -- Palestinian forces will remain in the Al-Biqa' Valley and northern Lebanon "until the departure of the (Israeli) occupiers," a Palestinian guerrilla leader said here on Monday. The interests of Palestinian civilians would also have to be "guaranteed by commitments from the Lebanese Government, Arab countries and the United Nations," said Nayif Hawatimah, head of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine (DFLP).

In an interview with Agence France-Presse, he emphasized the need for such guarantees to prevent "new barbaric and aggressive acts against our people's camps, whether by enemy soldiers or the Lebanese Army under cover of the multinational force." The Palestinian position, Mr Hawatimah said, is based on "the bitter experience that we have gained from the massacres at the Palestinian Sabra and Shatila camps."

Mr Hawatimah accused the Lebanese Government of not abiding by its commitments: "They signed agreements on the security of the camps and civil institutions. Then after our combatants left Beirut, they helped the occupation forces and rejected the UN resolution calling for creation of an international inquiry commission on the massacres. Finally, their army entered the camps and undertook a frightful campaign of searches and confiscations."

To a question about why the major demonstrations against the Beirut blockade and the massacres took place in Israel and not in the Arab countries, Mr Hawatimah answered: "In the Arab countries, democratic freedoms are confiscated and the people are fettered... But we are sure that the shock waves from the Lebanese war will have tremendous effects in the Arab region."

The demonstrations in Israel "indicate that all the Palestinian blood spilled as well as the world protests against the massacres have made a furrow in Israel society that we consider positive," Mr Hawatimah said. "Now the crowds who demonstrated in Tel Aviv against the massacres must recognize our people's right to existence, self-determination and independence."

ABU NIDAL GROUP REPORTEDLY KILLED KUWAITIS

NC082244 Paris AFP in English 2230 GMT 8 Oct 82

[Text] London, Oct 8 (AFP) -- The Abu Nidal [Hasan al-Banna] group, the Palestinian splinter faction opposed to Yasir 'Arafat, killed two Kuwaiti diplomats last month in Madrid and Karachi in hopes of obtaining the release of two members imprisoned in Kuwait, THE ECONOMIST magazine reported here today.

The two detained men were jailed after one of them shot the charge d'affaires of the United Arab Emirates in Kuwait in late August, the London weekly said in an article from Baghdad. The reporter said his source for the information [words indistinct] to Abu Nidal named Abu Fahd, who was interviewed at the group's political headquarters in the Iraqi capital.

He said the office was decorated with a photograph of Abu Sharar, the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) official who was killed in bomb explosion in a Rome hotel last year. The article said this suggested that Abu Sharar, "at least in the last year of his life, had resumed contact with Abu Nidal," who was once his ally in the Palestinian Fatah faction led by Mr 'Arafat.

Abu Nidal has accused Mr 'Arafat of killing Abu Sharar [words indistinct] the PLO blames the Israelis, the article said.

Mr 'Arafat arrived in Baghdad Wednesday and informed sources said the PLO leader was to question Iraqi leaders about the hospitality they have shown to his adversary, Abu Nidal.

The murders of the two Kuwaiti diplomats have already been claimed by the Abu Nidal group. THE ECONOMIST article suggests they could have been promoted by another, though secondary, reason: "To bully these tiny neighbors of Iraq into reducing their support for the mainstream PLO."

Abu Nidal, whose given name is Hasan Sabri al-Banna, is the former PLO representative in Baghdad but was condemned to death by the PLO in 1974 on charges of attempting to murder Mr 'Arafat. His group has claimed several attacks against other PLO directors as well as the attempted assassination of the Israeli ambassador to Britain, Shlomo Argov, last June.

'ARAFAT SENDS CABLE TO 'ALI NASIR MUHAMMAD

GF101627 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 10 Oct 82

[Cable sent by Yasir 'Arafat, PLO Executive Committee Chairman to 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee, chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium and chairman of the PDRY Council of Ministers -- date not given]

[Text] With profound appreciation and gratitude I and the Arab Palestinian people received your solidarity message which expresses your principled stance toward the Revolution and the just struggle of the Arab Palestinian people against imperialism, Zionism and Israeli aggression.

O Brother Chairman, the latest savage massacres -- which were perpetrated by the Zionist gangs in Beirut against our Palestinian people and their camps -- revealed the direct U.S.-Imperialist collusion in these massacres, particularly after the guarantees that were given by Washington for the protection of the camps and the civilians. These guarantees were not implemented. They were a means for enabling the Israeli enemy to perpetrate these ugly massacres which are a link in the chain of the crimes of Israeli Zionism, which is supported by imperialism against our Arab-Palestinian people and against our Arab nation. We assert to you that no matter how much the difficulties and imperialist-Zionist-Israeli plots are intensified, our Palestinian people are backed by their Arab nation and by the free friends all over the world in the continuation of their just struggle and the consequent achievement of their legitimate national rights, including their right to return, to self-determination and to establish the Palestinian state on the soil of their national Palestinian land. We are sure that the ties of brotherhood and joint struggle that link us with the fraternal Yemeni people under your sagacious and courageous leadership will become stronger, something we have become accustomed to. We reiterate to you my appreciation and the appreciation of the Palestinian Arab people for your principled and constant stances which stem from your firmness and our association in the same trench against imperialism, Zionism and Israeli aggression. We wish you robust health and wish your fraternal people progress and prosperity.

KHALID AL-HASAN GRANTS TELEPHONE INTERVIEW

JN081946 Monte Carlo Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1738 GMT 8 Oct 82

[Telephone interview with Khalid al-Hasan, chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee of the Palestine National Council, by Monte Carlo radio's news director Antoine Nawfal and carried within the "It Happened Tomorrow" program -- recorded -- date not given]

[Text] [Question] What is your opinion of the Jordanian plan? Is it superior to the old plan of the united Arab kingdom?

[Answer] This is not a separate plan but part of a plan. It is part of the Reagan plan which was very ambiguous. This plan was later extended to become a form of federation or confederation. I believe that the Palestinian people feel that future relations between the Palestinians and the Jordanians must be a confederation. This is necessitated by political, economic and social circumstances. Hence, the confederation with Jordan is acceptable. It has no relation to the united Arab kingdom project because it differs in terms of the nature of the relations and the nature of the government. The existing differences pertain to the fact that the Palestinian leadership and the Palestinians are of the view that the confederation with Jordan should be an independent Palestinian decision, not a U.S. precondition. Hence, a state must be established so that it can exercise the requirements of sovereignty such as defining the relations with other states and with Jordan with which there will be a confederation.

[Question] Therefore, a Palestinian state should be established before the confederation. There should be a confederation after a transition period [10 second interruption in transmission].

[Answer heard in progress] the confederation.

[Question] But it seems issues are taking an opposite direction?

[Answer] The opposite direction appeared in Reagan's plan.

[Question] What are your views on Reagan's plan?

[Answer] In his plan, Reagan defined the U.S. attitude on Israel's no's. He made clear what Israel cannot do in terms of the settlements policy, the continuation of the occupation, the annexation of the West Bank and Gaza Strip, the annexation of Jerusalem and declaring it a capital of the Israeli state and the concept of sovereignty. There were two positive points with regard to the Palestinians: the first is that for the first time a U.S. president has referred to legitimate rights and the Palestininian people in one sentence and not within an entire paragraph or statement. The Palestinian people's legitimate rights are connected to the entire rights stipulated by international law although Reagan's detailed explanation of the plan did not say this. The second positive point is his saying that the Lebanese war proved that there are aspirations cherished by the Palestinian people, that these people are determined to realize their national aspiration and that he will help them realize this. This is the first time this has been said. However, these positive points which were made to ward off danger [as heard] were accompanied by negative points and obscure views about the Palestinians. He did not mention the right of self-determination which should have been mentioned since he recognized the Palestinian people's legitimate rights. He did not talk about the Palestinian state but about an autonomy tied with the concept of sovereignty which was later explained in his supplementary memoranda as including what is within the borders of the state and not what is outside the borders of the state. Hence, the autonomy during the transitional period is not a perfect and independent government and we cannot agree to it.

He did not refer to the PLO. He said he was prepared to guarantee free elections in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. By the way, he forgot Al-Himmah which is also one of the territories occupied in 1967. He also forgot the contradiction implied in holding free elections under occupation. Free elections do not only mean going to the ballot box without being accompanied by an intelligence officer, they mean that there should be a climate of freedom -- that there should not be occupation. Thus, the withdrawal must precede the elections -- if there are to be any elections -- of the representatives of the Palestinian people. Hence, he ignored the PLO. These are the matters which were ignored and which Reagan left pending at the negotiating table. Fahd's plan, however, clearly explains these matters by stating that there must be a withdrawal, there must be a Palestinian state, there must be self-determination and the PLO must be recognized as the sole and legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

Hence, the integration [at-takamul] between Reagan's negativism and Fahd's positivism and between Reagan's positivism and the other negative aspects. The time is not ripe for talking about the other negative aspects because the two plans are still mere words on paper and because no measures have yet been taken concerning these plans so that people can tell what practical steps should be taken and whether they would coordinate or would contradict. These matters, however, depend on the results of the contacts which will held by the summit leaders during their visits to the UN Security Council member states.

[Question] During your tour of some Western capitals, including your recent visit to Paris, what did the officials tell you, particularly concerning mutual recognition? What was your answer?

[Answer] I always used to answer with the following: Recognition is part of sovereignty and it is not within the PLO's jurisdiction or right to discuss the question of recognition or even nonrecognition. Its task is to regain, not practice sovereignty. When sovereignty is regained, the state will be established. The question of recognition falls within the context of the state's jurisdiction. This is from the legal viewpoint as well as from that of the basic principles of world democracy. Also, there were many dictums submitted such as Israel's right to exist. I do not believe that there is a single Palestinian, regardless of his limits of knowledge, and I am not doubting the patriotism of any one, who would accept that, because accepting Israel's right to exist could mean the usurpation of the Palestinians' right to a homeland. Rejection of this right would also confirm the throwing of the Israelis or the Jews in the sea, whereas the result is that we were thrown in the sea. These are red herring diplomatic questions which are meant to cause embarrassment. Therefore, it is inadmissible to discuss such matters at this stage. Thus, the Fes summit unanimously decided to discuss the question of halting military actions or the state of war provided that a state is set up. When the state is set up, the legislative authority will have the legitimate and legal right to discuss recognition or nonrecognition according to its interests. Recognition is something unrelated to the question of existence, because existence depends on power and not only on the principle of recognition.

[Question] What is the status quo under the current circumstances? How do you envisage the future of the presence of the Palestinian fighters in Al-Biqa' and in northern Lebanon without exposing Lebanon, Syria and the Resistance to operations similar to those carried out against Beirut?

[Answer] The Beirut experience must be a clear-cut severe lesson for any decision concerning the future of the Palestinian fighters in Al-Biqa' and in the north. There is no doubt, and I do not want to conceal it, that our presence is basically connected to the Syrian presence in Al-Biqa' and in the north. If the brothers in Syria decide to withdraw, I believe it will affect the Palestinian decision. It should be made clear to us that the presence does not mean suicide [as heard]. The presence is to achieve the political objective.

BAHRAIN

YASIR 'ARAFAT ARRIVES ON VISIT 8 OCTOBER

GF081320 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1301 GMT 8 Oct 82

[Text] Manama, 8 Oct (WAKH) -- PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat arrived from Baghdad on a short visit to Bahrain today. 'Arafat was received on arrival by Shaykh Hamad ibn 'Isa Al Khalifah, Bahraini heir apparent and deputy [acting] prime minister; ministers; senior officials; Wafa Nabahan, PLO representative in Bahrain; Yasin ash-Sharif, PLO representative in Qatar; and members of the Palestinian community in Bahrain. During his visit to Bahrain, which is part of a tour of several Arab countries, 'Arafat will hold talks on current Palestinian and Lebanese developments.

Meets With Amir

GF081538 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1435 GMT 8 Oct 82

[Text] Manama, 8 Oct (WAKH) -- The amir of Bahrain, Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah, today received PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat who is currently visiting Bahrain. The meeting was attended by Shaykh Hamad ibn 'Isa Al Khalifah, heir apparent and acting prime minister; Shaykh Muhammad ibn Mubarak, foreign affairs minister; Wafa Nabahan, PLO representative in Bahrain; and Yasin ash-Sharif, PLO representative in Qatar.

During the meeting, 'Arafat briefed the amir of Bahrain on the recent developments of the Palestinian issue, and views were exchanged on the current Arab stand in light of (?current) issues on the Lebanese arena and the massacre that was carried out by the Zionist enemy and its agents against the Palestinian civilians in Sabra and Shatila camps. 'Arafat also briefed the amir on the results of his tour of Arab countries that are hosting Palestinian fighters after their departure from Beirut. They also discussed issues of mutual interest.

Makes Statement, Departs 9 Oct

GF090944 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0900 GMT 9 Oct 82

[Text] Manama, 9 Oct (WAKH) -- Yasir 'Arafat, PLO Executive Committee chairman, left Manama for Jordan this morning following a 1-day visit to Bahrain as part of his tour of a number of Arab states.

Prior to his departure, 'Arafat made a statement to WAKH in which he said that he and Bahraini Amir Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah discussed the recent developments on the Arab and Palestinian arenas, particularly with regard to the Fes summit and its resolutions that concern the Palestinian question such as the Arab plan agreed upon during that summit to resolve the Palestinian problem and achieve self-determination for the Palestinian people.

'Arafat blamed President Reagan's envoy Philip Habib and the multinational force for the Sabra and Shatila massacres. He said: "The Sabra and Shatila massacres are considered an overt immoral violation of the agreements that we concluded with President Reagan's representative and with the multinational forces."

SAUDI ARABIA

IRANIANS DEPORTED FOR MEDINA DISTURBANCES

LD081308 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 8 Oct 82

[Text] A responsible source at the Interior Ministry stated that last night thousands of Iranian pilgrims gathered at Al-Baqi' cemetery in Medina. The leader of the Iranian pilgrimage mission, Mohammad Hosyen Musavi-Kho'ini, was present and changed the situation from one of prayers into political chants. The instigators followed his lead and began to incite Iranian pilgrims to follow suit and to chant slogans that violate Islamic rites and the holiness of the town of the prophet.

The security men intervened and silenced them immediately. They dispersed the gathering and arrested 69 instigators, who were immediately deported to Iran.

This action aroused the citizens and the pilgrims and prompted them to assist the security forces. The security men had to protect the Iranians from Saudi citizens and other pilgrims who resented this behavior. Eleven Iranians, two security men, two citizens and four pilgrims suffered slight injuries.

The source added that these tendentious people are persisting in their actions which are divorced from Islam and which seek to harm the security of this country; they are disregarding the disturbance to pilgrims to the house of God and visitors to His Prophet's Mosque. The Interior Ministry source added: Therefore, measures to prevent this childish behavior will be firm. May God guide us along the right path.

Interior Ministry Statement

GF081912 Riyadh Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 8 Sep 82

["Text" of a statement by an official source at the Interior Ministry on 8 October]

[Text] In view of the fact that Kohammad Hoseyn Musavi-Kho'ini is persisting in his incitement of Iranian pilgrims to carry out actions that infringe on the country's security and the security of pilgrims to God's house and to visitors to the Prophet's Mosque -- which is contrary to Islamic canon law -- he and his companions, who number 70, have been deported to Iran this evening. The Interior Ministry warns the remaining [Iranian pilgrims] of the need to refrain from undermining security and to be orderly and devote themselves to worship. Otherwise more severe measures will be taken.

We seek God's satisfaction and He guides us along the right path.

Interior Minister Comments

LD092342 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 2240 GMT 9 Oct 82

[Text] Jidda, 9 Oct (SPA) -- His Royal Highness Prince Nayif ibn 'Abd al-Aziz, the minister of the interior, refuted the Iranian allegations spread by Iranian media about the number of those injured during the clashes that occured yesterday between the security men and the troublemakers from among the Iranian pilgrims. His highness said that what was reported by the Iranian information organs was not true and does not correspond to reality. His highness affirmed, in a news statement tonight, that the statements and pronouncements emanating from the Interior Ministry give the facts meticuluously and do not ignore anything.

His highness said we do not exaggerate things more than necessary and do not minimize them. We tell the truth because [word indistinct] that the truth is the most correct way and conforms with the ethics of this country. It is among the responsibilities required from any responsible apparatus particularly the security apparatus.

His highness added that we respect public opinion and respect our citizens and the pilgrims of the house of God and therefore we always try to tell them the truth. He pointed out that the kingdom rejects these kind of things, bans them and is capable of banning them. If one is found trying to carry out such actions, we are capable of defining the effective confrontation that will put an end to such things. His highness said: We cannot define these penalties and behaviors. We assume that there is understanding and realization that such actions are useless and yield no results.

Asked if he will allow the deported persons to perform the pilgrimage in the coming years, his highness said that the troublemaking element and the element which carries out such actions will not be allowed, particularly since he has already performed the pilgrimage. Should he stop practicing such actions, the gates of the kingdom are open to all Muslims.

Replying to a question concerning the Interior Ministry's statement issued yesterday in connection with the attempt by certain Iranians to disturb the pilgrims of the house of God and the attitude of the ministry toward this state of affairs, Prince Nayif stressed that the head of the Iranian pilgrimage mission and the imam's group were themselves directing the Iranian pilgrims and occasionally obliging them to carry out such actions. He pointed out that the ministry had been aware of their behavior since they arrived and had tried to make them understand that they had to give up doing such things. He added that when we found that they persisted in their actions even after they finished performing the pilgrimage, Musavi-Kho'ini was deported with his group as well as the instigating elements. A total of 140 persons were deported. His highness pointed out that any person who acts in a similar manner will not only be deported but will be subject to punishment. His highness hoped that such things will not happen and that there will be no intentions to disturb the security of the pilgrims of the house of God.

Riyadh Television Comments

GF092020 Riyadh Domestic Televison Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 9 Oct 82

[Unattributed commentary]

[Excerpts] When a group of Iranian pilgrims -- pressured by some Iranian elements which were hidden among the Iranian pilgrims -- tried to violate the tenets of worship and walk on a dead-end road in order to interfere with other pilgrims and visitors to the Prophet's Mosque, the whole process was out of kilter with normal [behavior] and a display of undisciplined action.

By shouting unfounded and meaningless slogans, this group of Iranian pilgrims violated the rules of worship as they responded to the enticement of the mentally ill by shouting slogans that could only diminish the rituals and inflict harm on the other pilgrims who came from various places to safely receive God's blessing. Some of the Iranian pilgrims, as the Interior Ministry statement indicated, transgressed by interfering [with others] and fabricating manifestations that have nothing to do with rituals according to Islamic doctrine. This made the pilgrims and people impatient, so they confronted the rioting Iranians in Medina. This entailed the intervening of the security men in order to protect the Iranian pilgrims against the wrath of the other pilgrims who regarded the behavior of the Iranian pilgrims as a violation of the rituals that spoils deeds, wastes efforts and ruins the orderly practice of rituals.

Those who enticed the Iranian pilgrims to violate the tenets of the doctrine mistook the place and time. Their venomous arrows went astray. They wanted to aim them toward the security and the safety of this blessed land. These arrows were broken on the rock of awareness by the servants of the Ka'bah and the Prophet's Mosque who had the honor by being faithful to their responsibility, confronting every wicked person who violates the tenets and manners of the doctrine in addition to striking with an iron fist the hand of every transgressor who tries to harm the glory of worship and employ it to shout completely meaningless slogans.

God will help us to attain our goals. Peace be with you.

AN-NADWAH, 'UKAZ Comment

LD100742 Riyadh SPA in English 1225 GMT 9 Oct 82

[From the press review]

[Excerpt] Riyadh, Oct 9 (SPA) — A Saudi newspaper today deplored what it called "childish behavior" of Iranian pilgrims in Medina and commended the firm action taken by Saudi authorities to ensure security in the city.

The Mecca-based AN-NADWAH condemned the behavior of Iranian pilgrims who organised a demonstration in the prophet's city and shouted political slogans without any heed to repeated calls made by the authorities to "respect other pilgrims' feelings and not to exploit the pilgrimage occasion for sowing dissension among Moslems." The paper lauded the firm action taken by the security authorities against the culprits who tried to "undermine the state's security."

The leader of the Iranian pilgrimage mission, Mohammad Hoseyn Musavi-Kho'ini, and 70 of his aides were deported to Iran last night. An Interior Ministry spokesman said the measure was taken in view of Kho'ini's continuation to instigate Iranian pilgrims to undertake activities harming the kingdom's security and disturbing other pilgrims in the performance of their rituals. The spokesman warned those who stayed behind to [refrain from such actions] "otherwise severer measures will be taken."

An earlier ministry statement said 19 people, including two security men, were slightly injured in clashes with Iranian "instigators" in Medina the previous night.

AN-NADWAH regretted the behavior of Iranian pilgrims and the deterioration of relations among Moslems because of a "group whose leaders are practising terrorism against their people and shedding their blood in a destructive war which has already claimed the lives of nearly 200,000 Iranians."

The Jiddah-based 'UKAZ warned "misguided Iranian pilgrims to stop their childish behaviour and try to find for their rancour a place other than the kingdom. However, we are quite sure that no such place exists on the Islamic map because Iran has been exposed before the Islamic nation as an ill-will state which envies other Islamic states, enjoying security and stability under the sharia (divine law)," the paper said.

'UKAZ urged Iranian pilgrims to "avert the anger of millions of Moslems who flocked to perform the fifth pillar of Islam, namely the pilgrimage. We are practising maximum restraint, but we will not allow them or anyone else to continue this nonsense," the paper said.

AL-JAZIRAH, AL-BILAD Comment

LD101432 Riyadh SPA in English 1219 GMT 10 Oct 82

[Excerpt] Riyadh, Oct 10 (SPA) -- Saudi newspapers today strongly condemned what they called the misguided behavior of Iranian pilgrims who tried to turn the pilgrimage into an arena for political conflicts.

Al-JAZIRAH, published here said Iranian pilgrims had "unmasked their ill-intentions during this pilgrimage season when they staged demonstrations and shouted hollow political slogans with the aim of undermining security and stability and rekindling the fire of dissension among pilgrims." The paper said Saudi security authorities succeeded in "containing the behaviour of Iranian pilgrims." It hailed the "flexibility, patience and restraint shown by security forces in dealing with Iranian pilgrims."

The Jidda-based AL-BILAD strongly condemned the "behaviour of Iranian pilgrims and their repeated attempts during the pilgrimage to divert other pilgrims from performing holy rituals and turn the occasion into a political demonstration." The paper welcomed the Saudi security authorities' decision to "deport trouble makers in order to put an end to stupid acts."

Further Comment

LD111706 Riyadh SPA in English 1230 GMT 11 Oct 82

[From the press review]

[Excerpt] Riyadh, Oct 11 (SPA) -- A Saudi newspaper today said nobody in the Islamic world had supported what it called the Iranian pilgrim's misguided behaviour which contradicted Islamic tenets and rituals relating to the holy occasion.

The Jidda-based AL-MADINAH said "All Moslems have blessed the Saudi efforts to deter such acts during the pilgrimage." The paper added "Those who thought they knew everything about Islam have actually planned destruction and chaos for their own country." As a result of this, Iran has gone back again to the days of the Middle Ages, chaos and terror" the paper said.

The Jidda-based AL-BILAD hailed the Saudi security authorities' moves to "check such acts by explaining to Iranian pilgrims the negative repercussions of their behaviour after having repeatedly warned them to refrain from disorderly activities. But, they ignored the warning, forcing the security authorities to contain these incidents and deport the trouble-makers to their countries," the paper said.

AR-RIYADH, published here, said "The Iranian revolution is now victimising its sons, killing them and sending others to exile. The revolution is also hurting all parties which opposed the shah's regime with the exception of the communist Tudeh Party whose leaders have not been arrested or harassed like other atheists," the paper added. The paper said the Iranian regime which claimed to be an "Islamic regime has allowed itself to fight Iraq, silently accepted Israel's attack on the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) and closed its eyes in the face of Soviet intervention in Afghanistan. The Iranian regime has resorted to massacres and explosions in the country to draw away the people's attention from what has been taking place on its frontier with Iraq," the paper added.

'ALI SENDS 'OFFICIAL' LETTER ON U.S. INITIATIVE

NC111726 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1605 GMT 11 Oct 82

[Text] Cairo, 11 Oct (MENA) -- Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali sent a letter today to U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz.

It has been learned that the letter contains Egypt's official opinion about U.S. President Reagan's initiative for peace in the Middle East which was declared on 1 September. Kamal Hasan 'Ali handed the letter to U.S. Ambassador Alfred Atherton during their meeting today. This written letter is regarded as the first official Egyptian reaction to President Reagan's initiative.

MENA has learned that Kamal Hasan 'Ali's letter to Shultz contains Egypt's welcome of the U.S. President's initiative as well as some observations on it and queries about some points in it.

It has also been learned that, in the letter, Egypt emphasizes the need for an Israeli withdrawal from the occupied Arab territories in accordance with UN Security Council Resolution 242 which stipulates the impermissibility of seizing land by force in addition to emphasizing the illegality of Israel's establishment of settlements on the West Bank and Gaza Strip. It also emphasizes the importance of there being a dialogue and direct contact with the Palestinians in order to create suitable conditions for achieving a comprehensive and just settlement as well as the Palestinian people exercising their right to self-determination.

'ALI RECEIVES STUDY ON RELATIONS WITH ISRAEL

NC081728 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1625 GMT 8 Oct 82

[Text] Cairo, 8 Oct (MENA) -- Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali, during a meeting today with Assistant Foreign Minister ash-Shafi'i 'Abd al-Hamid, received a report including a detailed and comprehensive assessment of Egyptian-Israeli relations in the political, cultural, commercial, economic, tourist and information spheres.

MENA has learned that the report includes specific proposals and recommendations regarding the nature of Egyptian-Israeli relations in the forthcoming stage and future trends in these relations. Moreover, MENA has learned that based on the content of the report, 'Ali, during the 2-hour meeting, gave instructions to Ash-Shafi'i 'Abd al-Hamid on this issue in his capacity as the chairman of the committee that was formed recently in the Foreign Ministry to prepare a comprehensive assessment of Egyptian-Israeli relations and to draw up a detailed plan on the future of these relations.

It should be recalled that 'Ali entrusted a committee of experts in the Foreign Ministry on Palestinian, Israeli, Arab and economic affairs with the preparation of this assessment in light of the Israeli practices, which are considered to be obstacles in the way of the peace effort. These practices began with the destruction of the Iraqi nuclear reactor, the annexation of Jerusalem and the Golan Heights and the continual aggressions against southern Lebanon, which developed into an overall invasion and reached the grave stage of continual massacres of civilians, particularly Palestinians.

The committee includes Egyptian Ambassador in Tel Aviv Sa'd Murtada, who was recently recalled, heads of the Egyptian-Israeli bodies and cultural departments and a number of experts in the Foreign Ministry. The committee held three lengthy meetings in the past 2 weeks to prepare this assessment.

'ALI DELIVERS FOREIGN POLICY LECTURE 10 OCT

NC101150 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1015 GMT 10 Oct 82

[Text] Cairo, 10 Oct (MENA) -- Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali has emphasized that anyone, particularly Israel, who believes that the conclusion of a peace treaty between Egypt and Israel has removed the detonator of war and [word indistinct] in the Middle East and that things may be left the way they are now while Israel imposes a fait accompli, is mistaken.

In a lecture he delivered today at the opening of the eighth October seminar, in the Commanders and Staff College, regarding Egypt's current and future political aims, 'Ali stressed that this assessment is completely wrong because peace must be comprehensive to guarantee its permanence and continuation. The partial or separate peace will always remain shaky, insufficient and easy to break.

The foreign minister stressed further Egypt's Arab, Islamic and African affiliation and stressed that the attempt to isolate it from its nation or seek to deal with it separately in order to weaken the Arab ranks will not succeed because Egypt will always work to foil such an attempt.

In his lecture, 'Ali stressed the following principles:

Under no circumstances will Egypt be able to live with a neighbor that lives by its sword or attempts to intimidate and terrorize its neighbors with violence and force to realize political aims which are devoid of the concept of real peace. Egypt accepts nothing short of establishing balance in armaments and military capacities between it and Israel, to be achieved through integral agreements, in order to restrict armament in the entire region after achieving a comprehensive settlement of the Middle East dispute. It is our opinion that for Israel to be equal in armament to all the Arabs within the general area, it would not be a balance that would lead to a permanent peace but one that would constitute an open invitation to Israel to terrorize the region whenever it considers this to be in its interests. This means that Israel has not sought peace as a way of living but as a means for strength to realize its aims.

Egypt demands the establishment of normal relations with all the small and large forces. It cannot abandon its policy of abiding by the principles of nonalignment. If it maintains strong friendly relations with the United States, then this aims at serving its interests and its region and is not directed against any forces from outside the region. In its relations with the United States, Egypt does not forget the realities of the age and the advantages which it, its people and its region, can gain from friendship with the greatest power in today's world.

'Ali said further that in addition to this, Egypt seeks within the framework of these relations to stress the following:

1. Equality in the relationship, noninterference in domestic affairs or the granting of special rights regarding Egyptian soil or its fateful decisions. This is a point on which we concentrate and which we give our main attention.

2. The importance of not permitting a return to the era of international polarization in the Middle East because this polarization is not in the interests of the region's peoples and states. This only serves the two superpowers and their policies toward each other.

Therefore, speeding up the efforts for a successful political settlement could be the guarantee for the non-emergence of the polarization phenomenon because there would be no need for the region's states to follow the great powers' policies in order to obtain arms and support in a military confrontation with Israel or anyone else.

Regarding Egypt's relations with Sudan, 'Ali affirmed that Egypt -- as has been the case throughout recorded Egyptian history -- maintains a special attitude toward Sudan. Using all available means, Egypt will always work to ensure Sudan's territorial integrity, security, and its good and close relations with a view to deepening and consolidating the integration efforts and measures for the benefit of the Nile Valley people. He also affirmed that Egypt looks with interest and hope toward all efforts seeking to establish a grouping of the Nile Valley states to protect their rights and ensure better utilization of the Nile waters.

'Ali said that Egypt is aware that the Middle East area, as a result of the social and economic developments which took place in it in the past 30 years or more, could witness -- that is to say, the Middle East area and its states, particularly in the Gulf area -- certain political changes as a result of these developments. Egypt, within this context, will always be prepared to help its sisters in the Gulf and will try to ensure stability and calm in this area, which currently represents a point of attraction and absorption of Egyptian manpower. This manpower is working to solve the Gulf's problems and at the same time, is contributing to the strengthening of Egypt's economic capability.

Discussing the efforts to achieve peace and a political settlement in the Middle East, 'Ali said: The political settlement constitutes a strategic choice for Egypt. Therefore, Egypt encourages all sincere efforts aimed at achieving such a settlement. We also appreciate that these efforts are currently standing on a threshold suitable for advancement. Egypt, consequently, emphasizes the importance of not wasting this advancement. However, it is necessary to actively seek the exertion of greater efforts in achieving a comprehensive and just peace in the area.

He said: Many of the various forces are currently raising ideas and plans for a settlement. Foremost of them, of course, is the U.S. plan, which is based on UN Security Council Resolution No 242 and the Camp David accords. The Arab group has also submitted an Arab plan for a settlement.

He added: Our current evaluation is that there is an implicit semi-agreement between the Arab and U.S. sides to give the U.S. proposal a chance for implementation or for negotiations. Our information is that the United States is acting with the parties concerned to discuss the available possibilities. In this regard, the following should be noted:

1. That the United States is affirming its strong adherence to the ideas contained in the U.S. settlement plan and that it will not abandon its active endeavors to bring about the implementation of the plan. We, on our part, are satisfied with the broad support the plan has received inside the U.S. society and institutions which share in the decision-making, but we also realize that the element of time guarantees to expose the dimensions of the U.S. design and U.S. conduct in pushing toward a comprehensive and just settlement.

2. That Egypt's support of many of the points contained in the U.S. plan -- despite the existence of some observations regarding some of its ideas and interpretations -- is actually due to the fact that it corrects all the interpretations and distortions which Israel has tried, since the signing of the Camp David accords 4 years ago, to impose on Egypt and the United States in the negotiations for full autonomy.

Kamal Hasan 'Ali called on the Arab side to adopt several bold and selfless measures toward a political settlement. He said the Arabs must abandon their narrow interests and must not exploit the Palestinian people's issue for the sake of short-term privileges or interests. The Arabs must act vigilantly and clearly toward definite objectives that could be achieved through procedural measures agreed upon by all the parties concerned. The Arabs must benefit and build on all the achievements that have been realized thus far through peaceful means.

Kamal Hasan 'Ali said that the PLO must unify its factions and tendencies and eliminate the schism in its ranks. This will give its leaders greater leeway for action and independence in making the difficult decisions in the period to come.

Concluding his lecture, Kamal Hasan 'Ali said our great country Egypt will always remain the hub of events, whether it likes it or not. It will pay a price for this but it will also receive privileges and advantages from its unique position. This is Egypt's fate and destiny. He added that building a modern Egypt -- economically strong, socially interlinked and truly democratic -- ensures the success of an active and influential Egyptian foreign policy not only on the local level but also on the international scene. This provides the Egyptian economy with great chances for success and strengthens all the elements of Egyptian national security.

FIFTY-EIGHT SUSPECTS IN AL-JIHAD PLOT RELEASED

NC110634 Paris AFP in English 0616 GMT 11 Oct 82

[Text] Cairo, Oct 11 (AFP) -- Fifty-eight suspects arrested for the alleged Al-Jihad plot to overthrow the government were released on Sunday, Egyptian newspapers announced this morning.

The other 87 people arrested in the Al-Jihad investigation last September are still in jail.

They are accused of planning to free 302 other prisoners jailed for the clashes in Asyut on October 9 to 11 last year following the assassination of President Anwar as-Sadat on October 6. About 100 people died in the Asyut fighting between Moslem extremists and security forces.

'TERRORIST RING' INCLUDES JORDANIANS, PALESTINIANS

NC100900 Cairo MENA in English 0820 GMT 10 Oct 82

[From the press review]

[Text] Cairo, 10 Oct (MENA) -- The weekly AS-SIYASI reported today in its banner headline and leading front-page story that the fresh confessions made by members of the terrorist ring recently apprehended revealed that a fresh attempt at sectarian strife was in the (?making).

The paper's report revealed that the ring included elements belonging to a clandestine Jordanian organization formed in the forties, and one member of Palestinian origin who had studied in Israel's Hebrew University. Elements of the ring were connected with extremist [word indistinct] terrorist cases.

MUBARAK COMMENTS ON DOMESTIC, FOREIGN AFFAIRS

NC111655 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 11 Oct 82

[Text] Following President Husni Mubarak's meeting with labor leaders in the National Studies Center today, [Minister of State for Information] Safwt ash-Sharif stated that during this meeting the president spoke with labor leaders on the development of industrial production in Egypt, the encouragement of investment in the private sector and the need to develop public sector factories in order to increase production.

The president referred to the problems from which the citizens are suffering, such as of sewage, water and housing. He affirmed that the state has begun to solve these problems in a concrete manner, and that it may take some time before results appear.

As for foreign policy, the president announced that the strategy of a comprehensive and just peace is Egypt's aim and that Egypt adheres to the Camp David accords, but it does not rule out other solutions in this regard. He praised President Reagan's initiative, saying it has its positive and negative points.

Regarding Egyptian-Arab relations, the president said: We have contacts with the Arab brothers, but we do not want to cause any embarassment to any Arab state.

At the conclusion of this dialogue, the president called for turning the slogan of production into positive work and for the need to evaluate the performance and production of the industrial companies.

MUBARAK LEAVES FOR SUDAN TO SIGN CHARTER 12 OCT

NC120744 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0712 GMT 12 Oct 82

[Text] Cairo, 12 Oct (MENA) -- President Husni Mubarak left Cairo for Khartoum at 0815 today on a 2-day visit to Sudan during which he will sign with Sudanese President Ja'far Numayri the integration charter between the two countries.

The two presidents will also hold talks dealing with important international and Arab questions and the strengthening of relations between the two countries.

President Mubarak was seen off at the airport by Prime Minister Dr Fu'ad Muhyi ad-Din, Speaker of the Consultative Council Dr Subhi 'Abd al-Hakim, Interior Minister Hasan Abu Basha, Tourism Minister Tawfiq 'Abduh Isma'il and several senior state officials.

President Mubarak is accompanied by an official delegation, including People's Assembly Speaker Dr Sufi Abu Talib, Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali, Deputy Prime Minister and Defense and War Production Minister Field Marshal Muhammad 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah, Minister of State for Information Safwat ash-Sharif, Presidential Secretary General 'Izz ad-Din Mukhtar and head of the presidential office for political affairs Dr Usamah al-Baz.

A parliamentary delegation including several members of the People's Assembly and of the Consultative Council and political parties left for Khartoum yesterday to attend the integration charter signing ceremony. The charter is expected to be published after it is ratified by the Sudanese and Egyptian People's Assemblies on 19 October.

The two presidents are due to sign the integration charter at 1800 today in the People's Palace in Khartoum.

The signing ceremony will be attended by members of the Egyptian and Sudanese delegations and senior Sudanese state officials.

HUSAYN: NO PRECONDITIONS FOR PEACE WITH IRAN

JN111917 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1700 GMT 11 Oct 82

[Excerpt] Baghdad, 11 Oct (INA) -- President Saddam Husayn has affirmed that, just as Iraq does not seek any gains in Iran, it will, likewise, not allow Iran to achieve gains in Iraq. He added that Iraq sets no preconditions for achieving peace with Iran, adding that Iraq is prepared to negotiate with the Iranian rulers on the basis that each of them lives on own land, not attacking the other.

Addressing a religious delegation from Bangladesh now visiting Iraq, President Saddam Husayn said that Iraq's principles dictate mutual respect for each country's sovereignty over its land and waters. He added that the Iranian rulers have no right to impose a special political system on Iraq and, likewise, Iraq has no right to impose any specific system on Iran. President Saddam Husayn reiterated that these bases are adequate to terminate the war and establish normal relations between Iraq and Iran.

President Saddam Husayn called on Islamic countries to establish good relations among themselves and to hold a series of conferences to improve their ties of friendship and brotherhood. He urged the Islamic countries to exert serious efforts to instill and deepen the heavenly values in the soul of the Islamic peoples, adding: We are doing this in Iraq and in our relations with the Islamic countries.

IRANIAN CLAIM ON DOWNING IRAQI PLANE DENIED

JN111031 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1000 GMT 10 Oct 82

[Text] Baghdad, 11 Oct (INA) -- An Iraqi military source has denied Iranian reports on the downing of an Iraqi fighter plane yesterday afternoon, Sunday. In a statement to INA, the source said that these reports are baseless and unsubstantiated. He added that Iraqi fighter planes carried out the tasks entrusted to them yesterday and returned safely to base as stated in yesterday's communique of the Iraqi Armed Forces General Command.

The source refuted Iran's allegations on its ability to confront our air force and check its control of the battle skies. He said that the Iranians tried their luck yesterday but lost one Phantom plane, to be added to the list of the losses inflicted on them since the beginning of the war.

He stressed that the Iraqi Air Force will remain Iraq's striking force until the war is over and until peace returns to the region.

ARMED FORCES GENERAL COMMAND COMMUNIQUES 866-868

Communique No 866

JN081656 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1630 GMT 8 Oct 82

[Text] Baghdad, 8 Oct (INA) -- All day today the Iraqi fighter planes attacked the Iranian forces' positions and concentrations in the Mandali operational theater and deep inside the Iranian territory in the central sector.

Communique No 866, issued this evening by the Iraqi Armed Forces General Command, said that the Iraqi warplanes inflicted grave losses on the Iranian enemy's armored cars and vehicles before returning safely to base. The communique added that the Iraqi forces killed eight Iranians and destroyed two tanks, one vehicle laden with hardware, one excavator and one stockpile of hardware in the central sector. They also killed seven and destroyed one vehicle in the northern sector.

The communique pointed out that the Iranian artillery today shelled Basra and Khanaqin, causing some damage. The following is the text of the communique:

Communique No 866 issued by the Iraqi Armed Forces General Command:

In the name of God, the merciful and compassionate. The valiant soldiers of Saddam's Al-Qadisiyah, the sons of great Iraq, continued their activities in the operational sectors against the Iranian aggressors last night and today, with the following results:

1. Our able fighter planes today attacked continuously the enemy's positions and concentrations in the Mandali operational theater and deep inside the Iranian territory in the central sector, inflicting grave losses on its personnel, armored cars and vehicles. Our fighter planes, which carried out 114 combat missions today, returned safely to base.

2. Our forward units attacked an enemy concentration opposite their positions in the central sector, killing eight and destroying two tanks, one vehicle laden with hardware, one excavator and one stockpile of hardware.

3. Seven were killed and one vehicle destroyed in the northern sector.

4. Using artillery, the rancorous enemy today shelled Basra and Khanaqin, causing some damage.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 8 October 1982

Communique No 867

JN091725 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 9 Oct 82

[Communique No 867 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 9 October]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. The zealous sons of the Tigris and Euphrates continued their successful activities in the operation sectors against the forces of the Khomeyni clique, which is wallowing in evil, vileness and aggression. The results of the activities carried out yesterday evening and today were as follows:

1. Our forward units pounded the enemy concentrations, personnel and vehicles in the central sector of the battlefield, killing 54 men and destroying 1 tank, 3 vehicles, 1 106-mm gun, 1 excavator, 3 infantry positions and 3 observation posts. Our units also seized one tank and one excavator left behind on the battlefield by the defeated enemy forces during one the battles of the last few days.

2. All day long our valiant air force formations continued their daring combat missions and concentrated attacks against enemy positions, units and troop concentrations in the area opposite Mandali and deep inside Iranian territory in the central sector of the battlefield, scoring direct hits and inflicting further losses in men and equipment. Our bold aircraft today carried out 94 combat missions and returned safely to base with God's care.

3. One of our units sighted and pounded an enemy concentration opposite our positions east of Basra, killing four and destroying two infantry positions.

4. Today the Iranian artillery shelled the city of Khanaqin and the villages of Zurbatiyah and Panjwin, causing some damage.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 9 October 1982

Communique No 868

JN101718 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1740 GMT 10 Oct 82

[Text] Baghdad, 10 Oct (INA) -- In a dogfight today, the Iraqi fighter planes shot down an Iranian Phantom. This was stipulated in Iraqi military communique No 868 issued here tonight. The communique added that the Iraqi aircraft today attacked enemy positions and units in the Mandali region and military targets deep inside the enemy's territory.

The communique said that the Iraqi units pounded an enemy concentration in the central sector, killing nine; destroying one tank, one vehicle, one gun and three observation posts; and capturing a number of personnel. The communique pointed out that the Iranian artillery today shelled Khanaqin and Zurbatiyah, causing some damage.

Communique No 868 issued by the Armed Forces General Command:

In the name of God, the merciful and compassionate. The glorious Iraqis last night and today continued their activities in the operational sectors against the grudge-bearing regime, wiht the following results:

1. One of our forward units attacked an enemy concentration opposite their positions in the central sector with all types of weapons, killing nine; destroying one tank, one vehicle, one gun and three observation posts; and capturing a number of personnel.

2. Our daring air force planes today attacked enemy positions and units in the Mandali operational theater as well as military targets deep inside the Iranian territory in the central sector. Our daring eagles scored direct hits on enemy units and military targets, inflicting grave losses. As our fighter planes were carrying out their successful combat missions, enemy aircraft attempted to intercept them, as a result of which a dogfight ensued. Our daring fighter plans shot down an enemy Phantom at 1654 near the Iranian township of Ilam. The Iranian Phantom was seen exploding in midair while the others were forced to flee. All of our planes returned safely to base, raising the banner of pride and victory.

3. Two were killed east of Basra.

4. The artillery of the ruling clique in Iran today shelled Khanaqin and Zurbatiyah, causing some damage.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 10 October 1982

BAGHDAD WARNS IRAN AGAINST ATTACKING MANDALI

GF101311 Baghdad International Service in Azeri 1900 GMT 7 Oct 82

[Unattributed commentary]

[Summary] Dear listeners: Khomeyni and his supporters have revealed the grudge that fills their hearts. The Iraqi Armed Forces, which enjoy the full fupport of the Iraqi people, know well that the Khomeyni band's main objective is to force first Iraq and then the Gulf states to agree to be in the service of Khomeyni's blood-dripping reactionary regime. "However, it seems that the impostor Iranian rulers, irrespective of the fact that they have not achieved any victory in the course of the 25-month-long Iran-Iraq war, (?are in need of more lessons)."

It is a fact that in the course of the bloody clashes during the past 25 months, the regime in Tehran has suffered heavy losses and major defeats. "Under the (?successful) leadership of Saddam Husayn, the Iraqi Armed Forces have repulsed the Khomeyni band's (?onslaughts) and destroyed the Iranian Army's strongest military units, causing it to lose over 100,000 men. The Khomeyni band, which has linked its will to that of the [word indistinct] (?countries), must understand that the (?fascist Iranian Army) lost over 70,000 men during the clashes in the Basra region and its losses in the clashes in the Mandali region are no less than this figure. The brave Iraqi people and the heroic Iraqi Armed Forces have proved that they have always remained loyal to the [word indistinct] revolution and to the Iraqi command. They have also proved that they are an inseparable and united part of this lion. [sentence as heard] Those who want to tred upon our sacred soil will be destroyed on it."

The illiterate rulers in Tehran, who intend to attack the Mandali region, will understand that the Iraqi people and the Iraqi Armed Forces are an insurmountable obstacle.

YASIR 'ARAFAT ARRIVES IN AMMAN 9 OCTOBER

Makes Statement

JN091124 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1100 GMT 9 Oct 82

[Text] PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat arrived in Amman at noon today on a visit that will last several days. He was welcomed at the airport by Prime Minister Mudar Badran; Ahmad al-Lawzi, chief of the Royal Hashemite Court; Information Minister, 'Adnan Abu 'Awdah; Hasan Ibrahim, minister of occupied territories and acting foreign minister; 'Ali as-Suhaymat, minister of state for prime minister's affairs and transport minister; Interior Minister Ahmad 'Ubaydat; the governor of Amman; and the director of the Amman public security department. 'Arafat was also welcomed by the PLO Executive Committee representative in Amman, the members of the PLO office, the Palestinian side on the Joint Jordanian-Palestinian committee and the commander of the Palestine Liberation Army in Jordan.

In a statement to the press 'Arafat stressed the good relations that bind the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, under His Majesty King Husayn, and the PLO. He said that the Palestinian and Jordanian sides will discuss ways and means appropriate for implementing the Fes summit resolutions, in addition to other issues that are of interest of the fraternal peoples.

Meets With King Husayn

JN091638 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 9 Oct 82

[Excerpt] The Jordanian side led by His Majesty King Husayn and the Palestinian side led by Yasir 'Arafat concluded the first round of talks at the Royal Hashemite Court this afternoon.

The two sides made a general and comprehensive assessment of the Fes summit resolutions and the Arab and international circumstances under which the summit was convened. The talks also centered on the necessary means to embark on political action in the international arena to rescue the land and kinfolk in the occupied Palestinian territories by securing Israel's withdrawal therefrom within the framework of a just, permanent and peaceful settlement.

The two sides also discussed the tasks of the Fes summit's seven-member committee, considering it the appropriate instrument to practically activate the summit resolutions in the international arena. The two sides asserted the importance of organizing and coordinating Arab action, particularly the joint Jordanian-Palestinian efforts in view of the special Jordanian-Palestinian relationship.

AL-QABAS on Talks

GF101817 Kuwait AL-QABAS in Arabic 10 Oct 82 p 1

[Dispatch by AL-QABAS correspondent 'Abdallah al-'Utum from Amman]

[Text] The first round of talks between King Husayn of Jordan and Yasir 'Arafat revealed a similarity of opinions regarding a just solution for the Middle East issue. After the preparatory talks 'Arafat decided to call the members of the Executive Committee from Syria and Egypt to participate in some of the talks. Sources in Amman, where the talks are being held in strict secrecy, expected the issuance of important resolutions as well as the arrival of Khalil al-Wazir, alias Abu Jihad, deputy general commander of the Palestinian Revolution, to participate in the talks.

There is much speculation in Amman regarding the issues that are being discussed. One of the rumors, which was confirmed by neither Jordanian nor Palestinian sources, is that Yasir 'Arafat secretly authorized King Husayn to negotiate on behalf of the Palestinians to restore the West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

A Palestinian source pointed out yesterday that Yasir 'Arafat demanded that Husayn receive the Palestinians who were deported from Beirut "because their residence was illegal" and supply the Palestinians who are agreeable with Jordanian passports within the framework of existing laws and Palestinian-Jordanian brotherhood. The Jordanian source noted that this demand will immediately be effected if the talks between Husayn and 'Arafat succeed.

Addresses PLO Meeting

JN102001 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 10 Oct 82

[Text] PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat has stated that "our battle in the occupied Arab territories has not stopped and will not stop so long as the land remains under Israeli occupation." 'Arafat, who was addressing a meeting at the PLO office in Amman, said the region is replete with events and that the volcano created by the blood-baths in Lebanon and Beirut will remain active until we return to Jerusalem.

Yasir 'Arafat said: Our Arab nation is passing through its gravest stage and our struggle against Zionism is a question of life and death. He added that what happened in Lebanon and Beirut is an inseparable part of this great cultural struggle between the will of the Arab nation and that of Zionism.

'Arafat added: Today's meeting comes after the epic recorded by the fighters of the joint Lebanese-Palestinian forces. We are here to express our pride in our forces who matched the Israeli army which stood for 79 days at the entrances of Beirut using the most advanced U.S. military equipment, including some bombs we had never heard of and of which very little is found in military lexica. He said: What happened is important in the history of our Arab nation, praising the role of the faithful who fought in this battle under the slogan: martyrdom or victory.

Touching on the massacre in the Sabra and Shatila camps, 'Arafat held the U.S. President responsible for the massacre because his envoy Philip Habib had undertaken to protect the Palestinians. He pointed out that the aim of the massacre is to intimidate and terrify us, adding that the joint forces' losses in Lebanon amounted to 72,000 martyrs, wounded and missing, and that Israel's losses in Lebanon exceeded its total losses in its wars against the Arabs. 'Arafat then reviewed the sacrifices and heroism displayed by the joint forces in confronting the bestial Zionist aggression against Lebanon and Beirut.

'Arafat expressed his respect for and appreciation of the Jewish militarists and civilians who rejected, opposed and condemned the massacre, adding: I appreciate their position and bow in respect for them, because our Revolution was not born sectarian. He added that the Palestinian Revolution is duty-bound toward the Arab nation's aspirations.

Monte Carlo Reports Remarks

JN110711 Monte Carlo Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 0500 GMT 11 Oct 82

[Excerpt] PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat continued his talks in Jordan by meeting again with King Husayn. He announced at a popular meeting his readiness to accept any Middle East peace plan that leads to the hoisting of the Palestinian flag on Jerusalem. He added that it is time for political action.

'Arafat will today continue his tour of Jordan by visiting a Palestine Liberation Army unit in Khaww, east of Amman. This means that he will not leave for Tunis, as reported earlier, to meet with Austria's Chancellor Bruno Kreisky.

Addresses Gathering

GF111821 San'a Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1600 GMT 11 Oct 82

[Excerpt] Brother leader Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] has warned of an armed confrontation with the Zionist enemy that will soon erupt in the Biqa' region. He indicated that U.S. envoy Philip Habib is making his trips in order to prevent the occurance of this confrontation. In a popular gathering held yesterday evening in the yard of PLO's office in Amman, Abu 'Ammar warned that the coming days will bring big suprises and events. He stressed that the Palestinian struggle will not stop until the return to Jerusalem is achieved. He once more held U.S. President Ronald Reagan responsible for the massacres that took place in the Sabra and Shatila camps following the departure of Palestinian fighters from national Beirut.

Comments on Talks

JN111848 Amman Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 11 Oct 82

[Text] Yasir 'Arafat, PLO Executive Committee chairman, has stated that his talks with His Majesty King Husayn and Jordanian officials are very positive and are taking place in an atmosphere of amity and responsibility.

'Arafat was speaking at a meeting at the PLO office in Amman this evening attended by members of the PLO Executive Committee, the Central Council and the Palestine National Council, several of whom arrived in Amman for this meeting yesterday and today from several Arab countries.

The PLO Executive Committee chairman briefed those attending on the progress of the Jordanian-Palestinian talks. He said: I have stressed to His Majesty King Husayn that Palestine and Jordan have the closest relations with each other, that the Palestinians and Jordanians have the strongest ties with the Palestinian cause and that this cause is to them a matter of life or death. 'Arafat added that His Majesty King Husayn had sent a special envoy to Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil with a request that the Lebanese Army suspend its harrassment of the Palestinians in Lebanon and provide them with protection. 'Arafat informed his audience that he had received a positive Saudi reply today concerning the PLO's request that PLO representatives participate in all the visits of the seven-member committee formed at the Fes summit.

JORDAN TIMES Report

JN110935 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 11 Oct 82 p 1

[By Samira Kawar special to the JORDAN TIMES]

[Excerpts] Amman -- A closed and lenghty round of talks was held Sunday evening between His Majesty King Husayn and visiting Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasir 'Arafat. The two leaders further discussed a formula for joint Jordanian-Palestinian political action worked out during their first session of talks on Saturday. After Sunday's talks the king hosted a dinner banquet in honour of the PLO delegation.

On Sunday morning, Mr. 'Arafat presided over a meeting comprising PLO Executive Committee members 'Abd ar-Rahim Ahmad, Dr. Hanna Nasir, Jamal Surani, Hamid Abu Sittah, [and] Brig-Gen. 'Abd al-Razzaq al-Nashashibi. Also attending the meeting was PLO Central Committee member Rafiq al-Natshah. Discussions during the meeting centered on the results of the session of talks held Saturday between the king and Mr. 'Arafat.

The JORDAN TIMES learned from PLO sources that a formula for joint Jordanian-Palestinian action was worked out during Saturday's talks. The formula includes the formation of several joint Jordanian-Palestinian committees which will soon be announced. These committees will work on the international scale within the new framework of a joint Jordanian-Palestinian accord. This joint Jordanian-Palestinian strategy will serve as a basis for the development and implementation of the Arab peace solution proposed by the Arab summit conference at Fes.

The JORDAN TIMES also learned that the new joint Jordanian-Palestinian political strategy will be put before the Palestine National Council (PNC) for approval during a session expected to be held towards the end of October or in early November in Tunis. But the PNC will only meet after the seven-member follow-up committee formed at the Arab summit conference at Fes has met at foreign minister level in Rabat on Oct. 25 to discuss the results of contacts made by committee members with leaders throughout the world.

A large number of Palestinians in Jordan called on Mr. 'Arafat at the guest palace on Sunday morning to bid him welcome. They included the former Mayor of Jerusalem Rawhi al-Khatib, the former Mayor of Halhul Muhammad Milhim, Hebron Mayor Fahd al-Qawasmi, Ramallah Mayor Nadim Zaru and Shaykh Rajab Bayyud al-Tamimi, all deported by the Israeli occupation forces from the West Bank. Flanked by Archbishop Elia Khuri, Shaykh at-Tamimi and Mr. Khatib, Mr. 'Arafat said: "This is the spirit of Jerusalem, all of us together like this." Representatives from the Palestinian camps also visit Mr. 'Arafat.

Asked by a reporter on the state of Palestinian-Jordanian relations, Mr. 'Arafat said that the PLO "has a strong relation with Jordan, its king and government, and especially its people." He said that the Jordanians and Palestinians were "historically one people in one nation."

At 5 p.m., over 500 people from the Palestinian refugee camps and other parts of Amman thronged the courtyard of the PLO office in Amman, waiting for Mr.'Arafat to come and speak to them. They chanted nationalistic Palestinian slogans such as revolution until victory and some of them carried posters of Mr. 'Arafat. Their frenzy intensified into a maddening stampede as he arrived. Women cried and ululated, and scores of men, women and children pushed and jostled to make visual and physical contact with the PLO chairman.

Addressing the cheering crown, Mr. 'Arafat said that the resistance put up by the joint Palestinian-Lebanese forces during the Israeli invasion of Lebanon and the siege of Beirut had once and for all dissipated the myth of the invincibility of the Israeli war machine.

Referring to the massacre committed by the Israelis and their allies in Sabra and Shatila, Mr. 'Arafat pointed out that U.S. envoy Philp Habib had given his assurances through the Lebanese Government that Palestinian civilians in Beirut would be safe after the withdrawal of Palestinian fighters. He said that he had registered strong protest to the Italian foreign minister that the agreement reached with Philip Habib through negotiations had been broken by the premature withdrawal of the multinational force from Beirut and the Israeli occupation of West Beirut.

The Italian minister said this was true but that Philip Habib and Bashir al-Jumayyil had pressured for the withdrawal of the multinational force 16 days before they were scheduled to leave Beirut, Mr. 'Arafat said. He concluded that this pointed to the fact that both Habib and al-Jumayyil had plotted the Sabra and Shatila massacres in advance. The massacres, he said, were aimed at terrorising the Palestinian people and humiliating them into surrender. "But this would not work, because the Palestinians are a people of martyrdom."

Mr. 'Arafat said the joint Palestinian-Lebanese forces had lost 72,000 dead, injured and missing. "In 1976, 3,500 Palestinians were massacred in Tall az-Za'tar. Another 5,000 Palestinians were massacred in Sabra and Shatil. Such acts would not subdue the Palestinian spirit of resistance, which stood fast in Beirut and kept the Israelis at bay for 79 days, a spirit of either victory or martyrdom. Palestinians will continue to give their blood until we reach Jerusalem," he told the cheering crowd.

He paid tribute to the 400,000 Israeli civilians and soldiers who had registered strong protest against the Israeli atrocities in Lebanon. They verified and embodied the true spirit of Article 15 of the Charter of the PNC which calls for a democratic secular state in Palestine, he said.

On Monday, Mr. 'Arafat will pay a visit to a Palestine Liberation Army (PLA) camp, where 265 PLA fighters who returned from Lebanon after participating in fighting against the Israeli invasion are based.

Amman Radio Comments

JN091952 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 9 Oct 82

[Station commentary]

[Text] Following the events in Lebanon and the series of international developments regarding the Palestinian issue, Yasir 'Arafat established his headquarters in Tunis and is now paying successive visits to European and Arab countries as part of his intensive political effort and action.

However, Yasir 'Arafat's visit to Jordan, as well as being part of his intensive political effort, also has an important meaning that stems from the special relationship between the Jordanian and Palestinian peoples. This makes this visit very special.

The special relationship between the Jordanian and Palestinian peoples differs from other inter-Arab relationships for three reasons: First, the Jordanian and Palestinian people have both suffered due to the continuation of the state of no war no peace. Although most Arab peoples and countries suffer indirectly from the state of no war no peace, the Jordanian and Palestinian peoples suffer directly. Although the whole of the Arab world is threatened indirectly, the Palestinian and Jordanian peoples are threatened directly because their existence is threatened. Also, the Jordanian and Palestinian peoples suffer directly from the waste of time and the common enemy's exploitation of new developments it has created. The two peoples have the right to say that their existence is directly threatened every day. This is one of the reasons the Jordanian-Palestinian relationship is special.

Second, the two peoples share a common interest that dictates to them far more urgently than it would in inter-Arab relationships. The Jordanian and Palestinian peoples will gain most by the return and restoration of the land, a fact that broadens and deepens the meaning of this special relationship. The two peoples have the right to firmly say that it is in their interest to regain their land and consolidate their existence, and to say that that interest represents their top priority.

This is another reason the Palestinian-Jordanian relationship is special.

Third, the two peoples share a common destiny that dictates their pan-Arab duties and gives them an opportunity to achieve special national rights at the same time. Just as the Jordanian and Palestinian peoples stand to lose the most by any hestitation or retreat and are the ones who stand to gain most by the restoration of the land, they are also the ones who stand to gain most by sharing a common destiny at the highest level. It is their pan-Arab duty to work together to liberate the land and the kinfolk from a dangerous colonialist settlement policy that is witnessed by the Palestinian people inside and outside the occupied territory as well as by the Jordanian people more than by any one else. This is the third reason the Jordanian-Palestinian relationship is special.

The fact that the two peoples suffer from the same situation and share a common interest and a common destiny makes the efforts of the Palestinian and Jordanian peoples in maintaining this special relationship a pioneering and historic act which represents a framework for rescuing the Arab nation and its existence during the most crucial stages. This fact also gives PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat's visit to Amman a special and important meaning.

AL-JUMAYYIL, AL-WAZZAN ADDRESS NEW CABINET 8 OCT

NC081940 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 8 Oct 82

[Excerpts] Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil, president of the republic, presided over the new Cabinet's first session this morning.

At the session, the new ministers met each other, and the outlines were set for the working plan of the new Cabinet in its capacity as a homogeneous working team. It was also agreed to accelerate the drafting of the Cabinet's policy statement to hasten the convening of the [Chamber of Deputies] session for a vote of confidence in the Cabinet prior to President al-Jumayyil's trip to the United Nations on 17 October.

President al-Jumayyil opened the new Cabinet's session with a speech in which he welcomed the new ministers and voiced his confidence in them.

After specifying for the ministers the tasks that lie ahead of them as well as the role assigned the government at this juncture, the president pointed out that the state is in dire need of reconstruction, that the citizens are in dire need of a restoration of confidence in their homeland, and that responsibility lies with all Lebanese to operate the workshop of construction.

President al-Jumayyil then asked the ministers to start performing their tasks, to pool the potentials available to their ministries, to form committees of specialists and volunteers to assist in turning the wheel of work and to exhort the citizens to contribute their share of work at the workshop [of reconstruction].

Prime Minister al-Wazzan then said: On my own behalf and on behalf of my colleagues, I deem it our duty to thank Your Excellency twice: Once for having selected this good group and for having placed your confidence in it, and another for having addressed the government as one working team. We all know what working as one team signifies. It is imperative that we act as such and that we preserve harmony through the Cabinet policy statement and through diligent and sustained work compatable with the aspirations of our compatriots, who believe there has been a deviation from the traditional or usual state of affairs. These compatriots pin their hopes on this government to perform its task and to bear the brunt of Lebanon's reconstruction. May I state that Lebanon has sustained many wounds, but it will remain above these wounds.

Our colleagues, the ministers, are now required to prove that they are able to save the homeland under Your Excellency's leadership.

He added: It is inevitable that we will convene several sessions in order that we will be able to weave together the fabric that will rally us in full harmony in the diverse domains around his excellency the president and around the general atmosphere prevailing in the country. These sessions will also be held to map out a general policy that will meet the tasks that every ministry should perform. It is imperative that this general atmosphere be mirrored in all the ministries.

Through my endurance and experience, I tell you now: Do not let matters as they stand shock you too much. This applies particularly to the scientists, who are accustomed to adhere to sound rules. The reason is that the given facts of life and of endurance are something different. However, this statement should not prompt you to resort to evasion. It should stimulate more stamina and greater determination.

I hope we will achieve the objectives that are required at our coming meetings. All these things will be possible, thanks to his excellency the president's guidance.

Afterward, Speaker of the Chamber of Deputies Kamil al-Asuad arrived at the Republican Palace. He joined the meeting that was in progress among President al-Jumayyil, Prime Minister al-Wazzan and the ministers.

Dr Elie Salim, deputy prime minister and foreign and expatriates minister, said: I am delighted to respond to the request of his excellency the president and of his excellency the prime minister, and to participate in this government, ahead of which lie enormous responsibilities.

I take this opportunity to thank his excellency [Former] President Ilyas Sarkis, His Excellency Prime Minister al-Wazzan and his highness [former Foreign] minister Butrus for the colossal efforts they exerted to achieve some major goals to which the Lebanese aspire.

A long road and hard work lies ahead of Lebanon. However, the working team that has been formed under His Excellency President Amin al-Jumayyil and His Excellency Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan consists of ministers who have contributed to the fulfillment of major objectives in their own special domains. This team is qualified to assume the responsibilities that have been assigned to it. We are all yearning for the major work that awaits us -- and we will be in our offices tomorrow.

Mr. 'Isam Khuri, minister of national defense, national education and fine arts, said: I am honored to assume responsibility under a government headed by His Excellency President of the Republic Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil, and by cooperating with a working team headed by Shafiq al-Wazzan: It is not only a source of joy for me to cooperate with noble colleagues, each of whom has an honorable record -- in his field and in his domain of work -- which augurs the good tidings of an efficacious future in the domain of national action. Even more, I am delighted to see an atmosphere of harmony prevailing among the members of the working team that has been chosen by the president of the republic. We are here to work as a homogeneous working team and with one hand and one heart. We are also here not only to work to save this country, but to build the future Lebanon. Indeed, it is with great faith that homelands are built. The president's faith in Lebanon is limitless and defies description -- and faith is infectious and it proliferates. Thanks to his excellency the president's great faith in Lebanon, thanks to his excellency the prime minister's faith in Lebanon, and thanks to the faith of all the Lebanese in their homeland, we will -- God willing -- successfully save Lebanon and place it on the path of salvation. Even more, we will build the state of the future -- the future Lebanon which everyone wants and which everone covets.

I exhort all citizens to join this workshop that is being directed by his excellency the president. The reason is that, through joint action and by cementing our ranks, we will build the future and we will build tomorrow.

AL-AS'AD, AL-WAZZAN MAKE STATEMENTS ON CABINET

NC081322 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 8 Oct 82

[Excerpt] Following a meeting held before noon today at the Republican Palace which was chaired by President Amin al-Jumayyil, and attended by Chamber of Deputies Speaker Kamil al-As'ad, Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan and the new ministers -- except for Minister George Afra, who is abroad -- the traditional commemorative photograph was taken of the new regime's first Cabinet.

Emerging from the palace, Speaker al-As'ad was asked his opinion of the new Cabinet. He said: I prefer not to make a hasty comment. However, each member of the Cabinet is undoubtedly without blemish as far as personal qualities are concerned.

Asked when the Chamber of Deputies would hold a session for a vote of confidence on the new Cabinet, he said he will reach an understanding on it with President al-Jumayyil. Asked whether he expects a session to be held before the election of the speaker of the Chamber of Deputies, he said: I prefer that it be held before the elections. President al-Jumayyil can then travel [to the United States] with his government already installed.

The ministers began leaving the palace at 1120. Each one of them made his first comment on the new Cabinet. Prime Minister al-Wazzan said: I want us to be one working team and I sensed the readiness of the ministers to work on this basis, guided by the consciences of these people, who have suffered and are suffering. It is time for these people to enjoy stability and peace. Therefore, we have pledged to work together as one hand, one heart and one team. I hope we will be able to begin this march tomorrow, since we have agreed to meet in a small ministerial committee to prepare the draft government statement on the basis of which we shall ask the honorable Chamber of Deputies for a vote of confidence. We seek to and always want to cooperate -- and insist on cooperating with it -- fully in this stage in which we seek every sincere offer of help from everyone concerned, wherever they are -- whether in the legal institutions or the popular institutions. We seek the help of every citizen, who must lend a hand to rescue the homeland.

Prime Minister al-Wazzan was asked: Who are the members of this ministerial committee? He replied: Minister Roger Shaykhani, Minister 'Isam Khuri and Minister Ibrahim Hawawah. They will meet in my office tomorrow to start preparing the draft government statement to be submitted to the Cabinet as soon as possible.

He was asked: If we wish to give a name to your government, what name will it be? He replied: I have constantly been asked this question. I do not like to give names to governments, but as long as the question was asked I would say that the character which this government must assume -- and I do not say the name -- is the character of work and rescue. This is the reason that I and all of the ministers declined to receive well-wishers -- so we can devote our time to useful work.

Information and Justice Minister Roger Shaykhani said: We held a Cabinet meeting this morning under the chairmanship of His Excellency President Amin al-Jumayyil and in the presence of Prime Minister al-Wazzan. This meeting was very useful for the new working team, which has never engaged in politics, in the political sense of the word, but only in the general national sense of the word. All of the ministers who are present here today are here to serve Lebanon. Their purpose and objective is to serve this homeland and restore it to its former state; a state even better than before.

I ask the press and information media not to congratulate us today on the positions we have assumed at the request of his excellency the president and the prime minister. We await congratulations after the work, and not before. I also ask the citizens, wherever they are and irrespective of their affiliations, to contact us in order to help us. The ten appointed ministers cannot carry out the colossal work expected of them unless every citizen stands at their side. Every citizen who carries out his duty will have served Lebanon and the cause of Lebanon at home and abroad.

NEW FOREIGN MINISTER ASSUMES DUTIES 9 OCTOBER

NC091012 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0915 GMT 9 Oct 82

[Text] At 1005 today, Foreign Minister Elie Salim took over his duties at the Foreign Ministry from former Foreign Minister Fu'ad Butrus. The Foreign Ministry secretary general, Ambassador Kisrawan Labaki, and senior ministry officials attended the ceremony.

After the ceremony, Minster Butrus left Butrus Palace and made a statement in which he said: I am pleased to have handed over the ministry to Minister Dr Elie Salim, with whom I am linked by an old friendship and for whom I harbor every appreciation and respect. I wish him success in his task. I hope he will be able to continue the march we have begun, the basis of which we have laid down. This march requires further sacrifices and efforts. I am confident that his qualifications will enable him to succeed in his task.

REPORTAGE ON REACTION TO NEW CABINET FORMATION

Franjiyah 'Blesses' Cabinet

NC080816 Ihdin Radio of Free and Unified Lebanon in Arabic to Lebanon 0700 GMT 8 Oct 82

[Text] The white smoke went up from B'abda Palace at 2300 yesterday, announcing the birth of the new Cabinet. This followed a 13-hour marathon meeting between President Amin al-Jumayyil and Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan. The new regime has registered a principled stand by not allowing itself to be bogged down for long in the morass of the demands of those seeking ministerial portfolios. The new regime conducted a dialogue with them after the consultations -- or rather, it gave them about 10 hours yesterday -- and when they could not be convinced, it ignored their demands and conditions and announced the formation of a surprise Cabinet -- at least those seeking ministerial portfolios.

The reminds us of the first steps [former] President Sulayman Franjiyah made at the beginning of his term, when he formed a Cabinet of young men. Blessed is this first step. We hope that it will also be a blessing to Lebanon through its deeds.

Shi'ite Leader 'Surprised'

NC081822 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1715 GMT 8 Oct 82

[Text] Shyakh Muhammad Mahdi Shams ad-Din, [deputy chairman of the Higher Islamic Shi'ite Council], has expressed his surprise at the Cabinet formation, which lacks real Shi'ite Islamic representation, as he put it.

Islamic Society Support

NC091314 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1215 GMT 9 Oct 82

[Text] At the government building, Prime Minsiter al-Wazzan met with the delegation of the Islamic Societies Union. Following the meeting, secretary general of the union, Sa'd ad-Din Hamidi Saqr, in the name of the delegation, stated that the union had come to express its support for the steps taken by President of the Republic Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil and Prime Minsiter al-Wazzan. He called for rallying round the Presidency and directing efforts to serve the interests of the homeland.

Druze Support

NC111352 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 11 Oct 82

[Excerpt] The religious leader of the Druze community, His Eminence Shaykh Muhammad Abu Shaqra, has welcomed the formation of the new Cabinet, considering it a good sign for raising hopes for saving the country from its sufferings and for a start toward achieving accord and real national unity.

In a statement he made today on the formation of the government, his eminence said: We have received the formation of the Cabinet with deep satisfaction. Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan has proved that he is qualified to assume the duties and responsibilities of the government. The government members are a noble group of experienced and efficient persons who are devoid of political extremism.

Qulaylat Comments

NC081512 (Clandestine) Voice of Arab Lebanon in Arabic to Lebanon 1330 GMT 8 Oct 82

[Text] On the formation of the new government, a telephone contact took place between Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan and Brother Ibrahim Qulaylat, chairman of the Command Council of the Independent Nasirite Movement Al-Murabitun. Brother Qulaylat affirmed to Prime Minister al-Wazzan that the Independent Nasirite Movement Al-Murabitun wants the government to outline a clearly defined program giving priority to the termination of the Israeli occupation, starting from the south and continuing throughout Lebanon. This would confirm the serious desire to build the future of the modern democratic state over all the homeland.

Brother Qulaylat also asked the prime minister that the security plans and measures, which are being implemented [in Beirut] on the basis of safeguarding the unity of Lebanon and of the people, would also be implemented on the same basis in other areas and not on the basis of discriminating between one area and another or between one Lebanese faction and another.

Brother Qulaylat affirmed to Prime Minister al-Wazzan that the Independent Nasirite Movement Al-Murabitun appreciates the technological and scientific qualifications and the well-known positions at various levels of the members of the new government and is confident that confronting the new phase by this formula and this way [words indistinct]. The movement hopes the manpower integration in this government can achieve further strides for building the future of Arab Lebanon and its modern state.

Answering a question about the movement's stand regarding the new government and the possibility of extending the legitimate authority over all Lebanese territory, Brother Qulaylat said: The movement's principled political stand regarding the new regime and the new government depends upon what this government can achieve [words indistinct] what I mean is the end of the Zionist military, political and economic occupation.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF U.S. PLAN EXPECTED IN 24 HOURS

NC120654 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0415 GMT 12 Oct 82

[Text] Informed diplomatic sources at the local and international levels are speaking of a U.S. plan, expected to be announced in the next 24 hours, that will include all aspects and dimensions on the Lebanese issue. We point out here that since last week, U.S. envoy Ambassador Habib has been continuing efforts with the cooperation of the U.S. State Department, to coordinate all the measures aimed at evacuating the alien forces from Lebanon's territory and to secure the presence of a force to replace them in order to help the Lebanese authorities recover their sovereignty over all of Lebanese soil.

ARMS, 'IMPORTANT' DOCUMENTS FOUND IN AL-BURJ CAMP

NC101550 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1515 GMT 10 Oct 82

[Text] Quoting a military source, the central news agency has said that the search recently carried out in the Burj al-Barajinah area, especially in Al-Burj camp, resulted in the discovery of weapons and many important documents. Included were a list of names of a number of army officers earmarked for assassination as well as the names of some deputies and politicians who had been impeding the march of the so-called Palestinian security in Lebanon -- that is, some of those who had participated in actions regarded as opposed to the interests of the Palestinian Revolution. The documents contained information about operations and orders given to carry out these operations outside Lebanon with the involvement of certain persons and establishments.

INFORMATION MINISTER COMMENTS ON MIDEAST ISSUES

JN110633 Monte Carlo Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 0600 GMT 11 Oct 82

[Text] In a statement to the NEW YORK TIMES, Syrian Information Minister Ahmad Iskandar Ahmad said frankly that Syria recognizes Israel's right to existence on the condition that Israel withdraws from the Golan Heights and the rest of the occupied Arab territories and recognizes the Palestinian people's legitimate rights. He added that Syria will not withdraw from Lebanon before the all Israeli soldiers have withdrawn from Lebanon.

The Syrian minister implicitly criticized PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat and his talks with King Husayn in Amman.

INFORMATION MINISTER MEETS WITH CORRESPONDENTS

JN111342 Monte Carlo Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1210 GMT 11 Oct 82

[Text] Syrian Information Minister Ahmad Iskandar Ahmad met with some foreign correspondents last night and made important statements reflecting official Syrian attitudes toward several topics for the first time. Most important among these topics are Reagan's Middle East peace plan, the issue of Lebanon and the presence of foreign forces in it, Syria's position on the PLO and other organizations and Syria's relations with the United States. Our correspondent in Damascus Louis Faris details the Syrian foreign minister's statements:

[Begin recording] Regarding President Reagan's Middle East peace plan, the minister announced -- and this is the first time that an official Syrian stand has been announced -- that anyone following events finds in this plan a retreat from some attitudes earlier adopted by the United States. Meanwhile, he noted that Syria has thus far not issued an official statement, as the plan is still under detailed study.

The minister stressed Syria's commitment to what was decided at the Fes summit, including the Arab peace plan. Here the journalists urgently asked the minister if Syria's concept of Article 7 of the Arab peace plan includes Israel. The minister replied: Tnis is true. Arab governments have recognized Resolutions 242 and 338. He corrected the question by pondering if Israel recognizes the borders of its Arab neighbors.

On Syria's position on the talks being held by Palestinian leader Yasir 'Arafat in Amman, the minister said: We believe that no one is entitled to deal unilaterally with the Palestinian cause. We considered the PLO the legitimate and sole representative [of the Palestinian people]. Certainly, no one expects us to show indifference to such a matter. This is a matter of principle. Moreover, anyone who talks without authorization from the PLO Executive Committee speaks only for himself.

On relations between Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] and the Syrian leadership, he said: How good or bad our relationship with a certain person is does not affect our principles.

Asked about Abu Nidal [Hasan al-Banna], a dissident Palestinian leader, he admitted for the first time that Abu Nidal has an office in Damascus, in addition to his office in Baghdad. The minister explained this matter by saying: We take all political developments into consideration.

On the Iraq-Iran war, the minister said: What is happening now is an interaction of the war. We have condemned Iraq's occupation of Iranian territory, and we condemn anyone who occupies others' territory by force.

On reconciliation between Damascus and Baghdad, he said this is not being considered. He also announced that Syria supports the [words indistinct] of the war in Iraq in every possible field.

He said relations with Moscow are exeellent. About Soviet weapons he said: We trust these weapons as much as we trust ourselves. He added that the differences can be rectified. [sentence as heard] Asked if Moscow was compensated Syria for its losses in hardware at the beginning of the Israeli invasion of Lebanon, the minister said: Yes, Moscow is doing this. He also disclosed that several Soviet military delegations have recently visited Syria. On the difference between Soviet and U.S. weapons, he said: Syrian ground forces have achieved great successes in their fighting, but the weak point is in the air force.

Asked if Syrian forces in Lebanon possess weapons technologically equal to the U.S. war machine, he said: No, we did not have what was equal to it. However, he declared: If we are not equal now, we will be so shortly.

The Syrian official announced that Syria will not withdraw from Lebanon as long as there is even one Israeli soldier in it. He stressed that there is no room for comparison between the presence of the Syrian and Israeli forces [in Lebanon]. He added: Israel's forces are aggressive, invading forces, whereas the Syrian forces are legitimate forces at the disposal of the Lebanese president.

I asked him if the Syrian forces in Lebanon are at the disposal of President Amin al-Jumayyil. He answered: This is true. There is no problem between us and President al-Jumayyil. I asked him again: What will happen if President al-Jumayyil asks for the Syrian forces' withdrwal before the Israeli forces' withdrawal? He answered firmly: President al-Jumayyil has definitely not asked for this.

He announced that Syria considers the United States to be an active participant in the Israeli invasion of Lebanon. He summed up relations with the United States in one sentence: An open dialogue between two contradictory sides.

On the PLO fighters' withdrawal from the north and Al-Biqa' he said: This requires holding negotiations between the PLO command and the Lebanese Government. I asked him: If the PLO agrees to withdraw its forces from Lebanon will Syria agree to receive them? He answered: We have previously announced that we accept all PLO leaders as well as all those the PLO wants to sent to Syria. However, he added: I am talking about fighters and not civilians.

Finally, regarding Philip Habib's recent talks in Damascus, the Syrian official announced that what Habib heard was the following: When we agreed on a cease-fire on 10 June we did so on the basis of Israel's total withdrawal from Lebanon. He added: We told Habib that the U.S. Administration must respect its guarantees and implement what it pledged. We also told him that Israel is responsible for what happened and what is happening in Lebanon. Efforts should concentrate on Israel's withdrawal from Lebanon. He stressed that there is no problem between Syria and Lebanon. [end recording]

UK'S FRANCIS PYM ARRIVES IN DAMASCUS 9 OCTOBER

JN091646 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 9 Oct 82

[Text] Francis Pym, British secretary of state for foreign and commonwealth affairs, arrived in Damascus at 1600 today on a 3-day visit to Syria. He was received at Damascus International Airport by 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and foreign minister; Sulayman Haddad, director of West European affairs at the Foreign Ministry; 'Abd al-Karim as-Sabbagh, head of the Foreign Ministry Information Department; and Misbah Dalati, chief of protocol. He was also received by the British ambassador in Damascus.

Meets With Khaddam

JN091950 Damscus Domestic Service in Arabic 1915 GMT 9 Oct 82

[Text] 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, received Francis Pym, British secretary of state for foreign and commonwealth affairs, at 2000 today. The meeting was attended by Nasir Qaddur, assistant foreign minister; Sulayman Haddad, director of West European affairs at the Foreign Ministry; and the British ambassador in Damascus. Talks during the meeting centered on the current international situation and bilateral relations.

Second Meeting With Khaddam

JN101034 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1015 GMT 10 Oct 82

[Text] A round of talks was held in Damascus this morning between 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, and Francis Pym, British secretary of state for foreign and commonwealth affairs.

A SANA correspondent has reported that the two sides discussed the current international state of affairs, particularly the situation in the Middle East, and bilateral relations.

Meets With Al-Asad

JN101244 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 10 Oct 82

[Text] President Hafiz al-Asad received Francis Pym, British secretary of state for foreign and commonwealth affairs, and his accompanying delegation at 1300 today.

Present at the meeting were 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, and the British ambassador in Damascus, Igor Thomas Mark Lucas.

Further on Meeting

JN101625 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1530 GMT 10 Oct 82

[Excerpt] Damascus, 10 Oct (SANA) -- The talks between President Hafiz al-Asad and Francis Pym, British secretary of state for foreign and commonwealth affairs, revolved around the current situation in the area in light of the Israeli invasion of Lebanon. President Hafiz al-Asad described Israel's recent acts as unparalleled, even during World War II in terms of the bestial air, sea and ground bombardment of cities, villages, camps and defenseless citizens. He said the Zionists specialize in murdering civilians and innocent citizens, adding that these acts had been and are still being rejected by mankind throughout its stages of development.

President al-Asad said that the search for peace remains the best, adding that peace, nevertheless, must be the target of all sides and not only of one side. War, however, can be declared by one side, as is the case with Israel now. The president said that peace cannot be attained between the stronger and the weaker sides, adding that nations cannot accept capitulation even if they pass through stages of weakness, because the issues and destinies of nations do not depend on a certain period of time and because the elements of an equation are not constant. As is well known, there are certain constant, objective elements having, from time to time, continuous bearing on the various equations in all fields. The president said that he who is right owns the most important element of victory.

The president pointed out the importance of Europe's role in influencing European and U.S. public opinion, adding: Both we and the Europeans have an interest in peace, and Europe can play effective cards in achieving peace in the region.

President Hafiz al-Asad said: If the Americans are serious in working for the sake of peace, they must stop the massive arms aid to Israel, since this can never contribute to serving peace.

The British secretary asserted that his government is endeavoring to reach a just solution and a just peace in the region. He expressed satisfaction with his talks in Damascus.

Confers With Assembly Speaker

JN102006 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1915 GMT 10 Oct 82

[Text] People's Assembly Speaker Mahmud az-Zu'bi received Francis Pym, British secretary of state for foreign and commonwealth affairs, and his delegation this evening. The meeting was attended by Ghassan Rajab, People's Assembly member; Muhsin Bilal, chairman of the Arab and Foreign Relations Committee in the assembly; and the British ambassador in Damascus. The two sides reviewed bilateral parliamentary relations and the need to strengthen and develop these relations to serve their joint interests. Talks also centered on the situation in the region, particularly the Israeli invasion of Lebanon and its repercussions and results. They reviewed the current efforts to find a just and permanent solution to the Palestinian problem.

During the meeting, Syria's important and effective role in the region under the leadership of President Hafiz al-Asad was stressed. Also stressed was the possible role of Britain and Europe in contributing toward a just solution of the Palestinian people's cause.

Makes Statement, Departs

JN111726 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 11 Oct 82

[Text] Francis Pym, British secretary of state for foreign and commonwealth affairs, has confirmed that his visit to Syria was successful in view of Syria's extremely significant position in the Middle East.

In a news conference he held in Damascus this afternoon, Pym expressed deep gratitude for the welcome accorded to him in Syria by President Hafiz al-Asad and 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam. He added: It was a great opportunity that helped us to become acquainted with the Syrian Arab point of view regarding the conflict in the region. He expressed the hope of holding more contacts with Khaddam, stressing that dialogue at this time is very useful and essential.

Regarding his talks in Syria, Pym said that there was an agreement on some points, particularly those related to Lebanon's sovereignty and independence, the need for the Israeli withdrawal and the Palestinian people's right to self-determination. There were, however, differences on some points of view regarding other subjects, Pym added.

Pym noted that his visit was intended to further promote and bolster bilateral relations. The discussions were satisfactory and fruitful regarding all the topics we dealt with, Pym emphasized.

He added that Britain and West European countries condemn Israel's invasion of Lebanon. He stated: We are aware of the limitations of our direct influence. We have adopted measures to outline our stand, suspended our financial agreements with Israel and imposed an arms embargo on it. We have also acquainted the Israeli Government with our stand and views. We have briefed the European Community on our stand and views, and it in turn expressed its determination to continue pressuring even the United States to help in bringing about a just peace to the region.

Pym added: We listened to the Syrian point of view on the Fes declaration. Britain sees that this declaration is important and encouraging.

Pym expressed optimism regarding the Syrian stand, which believes in the importance of the European role on the Middle East issue.

Pym left Damascus this afternoon following a 2-day visit to the country, during which he met with President Hafiz al-Asad. 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, senior Foreign Ministry officials and the British ambassador in Damascus saw Pym off at Damascus International Airport.

KHADDAM RECEIVES PLO, PNC OFFICIALS 11 OCTOBER

JN111757 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 11 Oct 82

[Text] At 1400 today, 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, received Palestine National Council [PNC] Speaker Khalid al-Fahum; PLO Executive Committee members Talal Naji, 'Abd al-Muhsin Abu Mayzar, Muhammad Khalifah, Yasir 'Abd Rabbuh and Abu Mahir al-Yamani; and Fatah Central Committee member Abu Salih [Nimr salih].

They discussed current Arab and international affairs, particularly those related to the Palestinian cause.

BA'TH PARTY OFFICIAL LEAVES FOR MOSCOW 8 OCTOBER

JN081614 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1513 GMT 8 Oct 82

[Text] Comrade Muhammad Zuhayr Mashariqah, Ba'th Party assistant regional secretary and chairman of the AAPSO Committee in Syria, left Damascus for Moscow at 1300 today, heading an AAPSO delegation to participate in the 11th session of the AAPSO Presidium, scheduled to be held in Tashkent on 11 October.

PDRY ENVOY MAKES STATEMENT, LEAVES 8 OCTOBER

JN081612 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1515 GMT 8 Oct 82

[Text] PDRY Foreign Minister Dr 'Abd al-'Aziz ad-Dali left Damascus at noon today following a visit to Syria during which he met with President Hafiz al-Asad and forwarded to him a written message from PDRY leader 'Ali Nasir Muhammad.

In a predeparture statement to a SANA correspondent, Dr ad-Dali praised Syria's steadfastness under President Hafiz al-Asad against all kinds of imperialist, Zionist and reactionary designs. He expressed satisfaction with the outcome of his visit to Syria.

CABINET DISCUSSES LEBANON, WITHDRAWAL

TA101201 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1143 GMT 10 Oct 82

[Report by political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer outside the prime minister's office in Jerusalem -- live]

[Text] The Cabinet session ended a short time ago, and the ministers are now leaving the meeting hall. As expected, the Cabinet held a first discussion about Israel's goals regarding the political settlements which should be formulated and consolidated in Lebanon.

The cabinet will hold another session this week on Wednesday [13 October] after a report has been received from Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir about his meeting with his U.S. counterpart George Shultz, in which he will hear from the latter about the U.S. plan regarding Lebanon and the arrangements to be implemented in Lebanon. Only then will the Cabinet meet and formulate its opinion.

However, the various concepts of the ministers regarding future arrangements found expression in the meeting today. Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon, representing the maximalist concept, contended that due to its achievements in the Peace for Galilee war Israel should strive to reach a peace agreement with the Lebanese Government. This is not a gift for Israel, this is a security need for both countries, Sharon said, pointing out that the United States was standing in the way of Israel achieving this goal and was sabotaging it by its attempts to preclude direct contacts between Israel and the Lebanese Government.

Ministers David Levi and Mordekhay Tzipori differed over this concept, saying Israel must continue to aspire to reach arrangements with Lebanon in cooperation and together with the United States. Minister Levi is also of the opinion that, if possible, Israel should reach peace with Lebanon at once, but the question is whether this goal is attainable. It could be implied from remarks by Minister Levi and other ministers that this goal is unattainable

The prime minister summed up the debate in a communique drawn up in general terms, which will be issued shortly. Again, the Cabinet will hold another session on Wednesday to hear a report on the U.S. plan. In that meeting, the Cabinet will consolidate its view about the plan, and only then will we learn further details.

'Immediate' Negotiations

TA101306 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1255 GMT 10 Oct 82

[Text] The Israeli Government continues to aspire for the achievement of a peace agreement with Lebanon. This is stated in the Cabinet's statement issued a few minutes ago after the Cabinet meeting. However, Secretary Dan Meridor emphasized that a peace treaty is not a condition for the removal of foreign forces from Lebanon.

The Cabinet statement also announces that Israel is calling for immediate negotiations over the removal of foreign forces from Lebanon. The Cabinet states that first to leave Lebanon should be the terrorists located in the Lebanese Al-Biqa' and northern Lebanon.

The IDF and the Syrians, the Cabinet states, will leave Lebanon simultaneously. Before the evacuation, the IDF is to be given all captives and missing IDF soldiers and the bodies of dead Israeli soldiers. Prior to the evacuation, security arrangements will also be made to guarantee that Lebanon will no longer serve as a base or halfway house for activities by hostile forces against Israel.

This is what we have of the Cabinet statement at the end of its weekly meeting.

Principles for Security Strip

TA101212 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1200 GMT 10 Oct 82

[Excerpt] The Cabinet today adopted the principles for security arrangements in the 45-km strip in southern Lebanon. These principles were formulated by the Foreign and Defense Ministries. The Cabinet also began discussing the nature of the political arrangements Israel should strive to reach in Lebanon.

More on Session

TA101605 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1510 GMT 10 Oct 82

[Interview with political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer by Yitzhaq Eytan in the studio -- live]

[Text] [Eytan] What is the importance of today's Cabinet statement? Does a dispute in the Cabinet lie concealed behind this final formulation?

[Schiffer] There is no dispute in the government about the need to achieve arrangements that will secure the northern settlements. There are disputes between the ministers about the way to conduct the negotiations, about the U.S. role in the talks with the Lebanese Government, and about the extent of the arrangements Israel must stipulate as conditions for its withdrawal from Lebanon. In any case, it is important to note that the Cabinet will convene on Wednesday for an additional session, in which the security arrangements upon which Israel will insist will be finalized. These arrangements will be presented by Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir in his meeting his U.S. counterpart, George Shultz.

As for the Cabinet session: Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon presented his ideas to the ministers, citing five basic suppositions. First, Israel is not weak, and it must insist upon its positions vigorously. The negotiations over security arrangements must be conducted directly with the Lebanese Government. This was the case in the past, following Israel's wars, in contacts with Egypt in Rhodes, after the war of independence, and in other contacts held with Syria and Jordan. A peace agreement, he said, is not a gesture of one country toward another, but a major component of security. According to a previous assessment, it was said in the Cabinet, it was believed that a peace agreement could be achieved earlier. Although the circumstances have changed today, negotiations on these matters must begin. On normalization, Sharon discussed the importance of open borders between the two countries.

As I stated, some ministers differed with the defense minister over the final objectives Israel should seek in Lebanon and concerning the attitude toward the United States. Simha Ehrlich critciized Sharon for blaming the United States for the lack of a peace agreement with Lebanon. This contention must be backed up, he said. He warned against a further exacerbation in our relations with the United States. The Americans, he said, played a decisivie role in the peace agreement with Egypt and as a mediating element in the crisis in Lebanon. Do we want to lose an important ally like the United States? He asked. To go underground, and wage a war against the entire world? Ministers Burg, Levi and Tzipori spoke in a similar vein.

Sharon, at least according to one source, tried to stop Ehrlich during his remarks, but the prime minister intervened, telling him he would get the floor when Ehrlich was finished. Sharon made a personal statement, saying it was ironic that the U.S. administration, which appears to the world as a peace-loving country, is now trying to limit our direct contacts with Lebanon, at a time when no Arab country is as close as Lebanon to a peace agreement with Israel. Sharon said he does not regard the United States as an enemy of Israel, and that he does not regard Israel as to a rival of the United States.

Minister Avraham Sharir supported the positions presented by Sharon, and the Cabinet supported his comments on the security arrangements.

Incidentally, the tourism minister said that the facts should not be swept under the rug, and the United States must prove it is willing to work on behalf of a peace agreement with Israel. Minister Ben-Porat also asked for details.

Another subject discussed at the Cabinet session was the plan we made public this morning that was drafted by a Foreign Ministry expert about the pattern of future relations with Lebanon. This plan was based on the pattern of relations with Iran during the reign of the shah -- in other words, full relations, without flags and without the official exchange of diplomatic representatives. This plan was sharply criticized by the prime minister and several ministers.

The security arrangements, as presented by the defense minister, were worked out together with the Foreign Ministry, the active element in their formulation having been the ministry's director general, David Kimche. These subjects, it should be said, were also discussed with top-level Lebanese Government figures.

SYRIAN, U.S. POSITIONS ON LEBANON REPORTED

TA101950 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 10 Oct 82

[Report by Yoram Ronen from the studio -- live]

[Excerpt] Security sources believe that the United States wants to implement the Reagan plan for the solution of the Palestinian problem either before or as a precondition for an Israeli-Lebanese peace treaty.

Members of the Cabinet emphasized today that a peace treaty with Lebanon is not a prerequisite for the withdrawal of the IDF units together with the other foreign forces.

The points of dispute over the evacuation of the forces are as follows: Israel insists that the PLO forces must leave all of Lebanon as a precondition for the withdrawal of the IDF. Only after the terrorists leave will Israel agree to a gradual, staged withdrawal of the Syrian and Israeli armies. The security arrangements in the 45-km security strip will be determined directly between Israel and Lebanon together with a guarantee that Major Haddad will be granted appropriate status.

The Syrian opening position is that the IDF must withdraw first from Lebanon; only then will Syria be prepared to pull back its own forces as well as those of the PLO.

The United States currently supports a gradual and simultaneous withdrawal of the Israeli, Syrian and PLO forces. At a second stage, the United States wants to have a multinational force or a UN force deploy, and is unclear on Haddad's status.

Israel objects to the stationing of foreign forces inside the 45-km strip and prefers that either the Lebanese Army or joint Israeli-Lebanese patrols supervise security. Israel similarly believes that President al-Jumayyil will make sure Sa'd Haddad's status is ensured.

Today's Cabinet debate was general on the principles of the arrangement in Lebanon. The specifics of the plan will be worked out at the Cabinet session this Wednesday and will be transmitted to Foreign Minister Shamir, who will confer with Secretary of State Shultz in Washington the following day.

SHARON SAYS 'TERRORISTS' MUST LEAVE LEBANON

TA121000 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0957 GMT 12 Oct 82

[Text] Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon says that if Israel does not insist that all terrorists leave Lebanon, the situation prevailing there before the war will be restored. Any agreement must be based on the terrorists' nonexistence in Lebanon, Sharon said.

The defense minister spoke at the settlement of Elqana before more than 1,000 U.S. Jewry leaders. He also said he believes that a peace agreement with Lebanon is possible.

SHARON MAPS OUT SECURITY ZONE IN LEBANON

TA100754 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 10 Oct 82 p 1

[Report by Joshua Brilliant]

[Text] Tel Aviv -- The security zone that Defence Minister Ari'el Sharon wants to create in Lebanon covers almost the entire area Israel currently occupies there. This emerged from a map the minister presented at a meeting here last week.

One of Israel's conditions for evacuating Lebanon is the creation of a security zone, after negotiations, but Sharon maintained this did not mean a continued IDF presence.

The line runs from a point just south of Yanta in the eastern sector past 'Ayn Zhalta in the central region to Ad-Damur, but does not include the destroyed Christian city. The IDF's present line is two kilometres away in one area southeast of Beirut and 12 kilometres elsewhere.

At various points the envisaged line is 50 kilometres from the Israeli border, rather than the 40-45 kilometre strip Israeli leaders have been talking about until now. Sharon said the extra territory was needed because some of it includes high ground which provides greater range to artillery. "This is the line we need to assure it will be impossible to fire at Metulla," he said.

The maximum range of guns possessed by any of the Arab armies, including the PLO, is 27.8 kilometres (130mm guns), a source at the IDF General Staff headquarters told THE JERUSALEM POST last night.

BEN-ME'IR REITERATES NEED FOR PLO EVACUATION

TA120612 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 12 Oct 82

[Text] If Israel leaves Lebanon even a single day or a single hour before the last terrorist leaves Lebanon, all is lost. With a month or year, the status quo ante in Lebanon will be restored and the Lebanese Army will not be able to do a thing. This was stated by Deputy Foreign Minister Dr Yehuda Ben-Me'ir yesterday:

[Begin Ben-Me'ir recording -- in English] If Israel leaves Lebanon 1 day, 1 hour, before the last terrorist is out of Lebanon, everything is lost. A week, a month, a year -- it will all go back. The Lebanese Army will not be able to, if they have any hold left in Lebanon -- from there they will spread out, but if all terrorists leave Lebanon, Syrian Army leaves Lebanon, Israel leaves Lebanon. [sentence as heard] [end recording]

The first condition for Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon, he said, is the exist of all terrorists, and later a withdrawal coordinated with the Syrians. Dr Yehuda Ben-Me'ir says Israel wants all contacts to be maintained with the Lebanese Government, and rejects the attempt to involve UNIFIL in events in Lebanon. We do not want UNFIL. We have had experience with this force over the last 3 years and this force is totally ineffective.

[Begin Ben-Me'ir recording -- in English] We want it to be made with the Government of Lebanon, and there should be factors on the ground that will guarantee this. We do not want UNIFIL, the United Nation's Forces, because we have had UNIFIL here in south Lebanon. UNIFIL has been there for 3 years. UNIFIL is totally ineffective. [end recording]

Ben-Me'ir was talking before U.S. businessmen, and our correspondent David Essing reported his remarks.

'TERRORISTS' VIOLATE CEASE-FIRE 10 OCTOBER

TA102107 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2100 GMT 10 Oct 82

[Text] The terrorists this evening violated the cease-fire in the eastern sector of Lebanon, firing some shells at an IDF position in the 'Ammiq area. Our correspondent Hayim Hecht reports that our forces sustained no casualties, but returned fire.

IDF PATROL SHOT AT NEAR 'ALAYH; OFFICER WOUNDED

TA101849 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1843 GMT 10 Oct 82

[Text] An IDF officer was slightly injured at around 1800 in the town of 'Alayh, east of Beirut. The incident occurred when light-arms fire was directed at an IDF patrol.

The incident began this afternoon when unidentified persons shot at a Phalangist soldier, hitting him in the head. The Phalangists immediately set up roadblocks at the site of the incident in order to locate the source of the fire and did not permit cars to cross the roadblock. A traffic jam was created and the IDF patrol left to check what was going on. Fire was directed at that patrol as it was driving in the main street of 'Alayh and the IDF officer was slightly wounded. Our forces returned light-arms fire at the source of the shooting and direct hits were reported. The identity of the assailants is still not clear.

The report was transmitted from that region by our correspondent Yotam Yaqir, who added that the 'Alayh road has been reopened to traffic.

RESIDENTS INJURED IN 'ALAYH INCIDENT 10 OCT

TA102115 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2100 GMT 10 Oct 82

[Text] Some residents of 'Alayh, east of Beirut, were injured in the exchange of fire between unidentified people who directed fire at an IDF soldier in a jeep. The soldier was slightly injured in the leg. Our correspondent Yo'el Dar reports that it is not clear whether or not the assailants were also hit by the shots.

Correspondents report the IDF has cordoned off the area and begun searches.

There have been a few incidents in the last few days in the area of 'Alayh and Bhamdun involving Druze and Christians.

SYRIANS ALLOWING 'TERRORISTS' TO OPERATE

TA111337 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1327 GMT 11 Oct 82

[Text] In reaction to the violations of the cease-fire last night in the eastern sector of Lebanon, Israeli military sources have said that despite Israel's warnings, the Syrians have again granted permission to the terrorists to operate against the IDF in that region. At the same time, these elements expressed the hope that these are sporadic violations, and that the Syrians and terrorists have no intention of renewing the war of attrition in the Al-Biqa' area.

Lebanese residents who came to Israel today said that recently the Syrians have completed fortifying their positions and those of the terrorists in Al-Biqa', with a view to the upcoming winter. At the same time, the Syrians have taken possession of many houses in the regional villages, driving their residents out.

SPOKESMAN ANNOUNCES IDF CASUALTIES IN LEBANON

TA120918 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2100 GMT 11 Oct 82

[Text] The IDF spokesman this evening released the total sum of the number of casualties since the beginning of the Peace for Galilee Operation and until yesterday:

368 soldiers were killed in the war. This includes 20 soldiers who died as a result of accidents. The dead include 97 officers.

The IDF sustained 2,383 wounded soldiers: 106 were severely wounded and 425 sustained medium wounds.

In addition, 5 IDF soldiers are missing; 3 others are captive in the Syrians' hands and 8 are captive in the terrorists' hands. The International Red Cross has not visited these captives yet.

CHIEF OF STAFF CRITICIZES LEAKS FROM IDF

TA092013 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 9 Oct 82

[Text] Chief of Staff Lt Gen Refa'el Eytan takes a very grave view on information leaks from the army to the media. He said that in this the media also commits a crime, as do the regular soldiers and officers who leak that information. This phenomenon is damaging to the IDF, the chief of staff said.

Interviewed by our correspondent Dan Scemama, the chief of staff first addressed himself to the affair of the unit known as the unit that was not called up. Despite the hesitation on whether or not to call it up, its members were called up, enlisted, and all of them expressed readiness to do what they were ordered to do.

EYTAN SUMMONS EDITORS OVER BRIGADE CONTROVERSY

TA120739 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 12 Oct 82 p 1

[Report by defense correspondent Hirsh Goodman]

[Text] Chief of Staff Refa'el Eytan, in a highly unusual move, called in the country's newspaper editors yesterday to explain his version of events surrounding the brigade which was, or was not, called up.

Eytan's statement yesterday contradicts that made by Defence Minister Ari'el Sharon on television two weeks ago, in which he said that because of the anti-war sentiment in the country, an elite paratroop brigade was not called up for service in Lebanon.

Some members of the brigade demanded a public apology, noting that the brigade had in fact been called up twice. Sharon refused, holding that his statement was valid and that his intention had been only to illustrate the grave results of public criticism of the war.

At yesterday's meeting, Eytan said that it was he who had ordered the brigade commander to go public and refute the story that the brigade had not been called up. Eytan was careful not to say that the minister's statement was inaccurate. Rather, he said that the public interpretation of Sharon's statement was incorrect, and therefore he had ordered the commander to set the record straight. When questioned on the discrepancy between his and Sharon's versions, Eytan would only reply: "Ask the minister."

Observers said after the meeting yesterday that Eytan had called the early-morning meeting with the editors to let it be known that the IDF remains a disciplined force and that he is in total control as chief of staff.

Sharon's statement on television could have been interpreted, and was by many, as meaning that Eytan no longer enjoyed the confidence of the senior command and that frontline officers and men were questioning his judgement and his conduct of the war.

Eytan said that he had called the meeting mainly to protest that the portion of an interview he granted television over the weekend on the brigade and relations between the political and military echelons in Israel was omitted from the broadcast version.

BEN-ME'IR REJECTS CALL FOR ANNEXATION OF LEBANON

TA120721 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 12 Oct 82

[Text] Deputy Foreign Minister Yehuda Ben-Me'ir has strongly rejected Gush Emunim's call for the annexation of Israeli-held parts of Lebanon. Dr Ben-Me'ir of the National Religious Party [NRP] says that such a policy would only lead to external warfare. Ben-Me'ir told reporter Shim'on Feinberg that the annexation of Lebanese territory is not only foreign to Gush Emunim's basic policy, but is also foreign to the ideas of Judaism.

[Begin Ben-Me'ir recording] These ideas in my opinion are not only a total falsification of the original purpose of the names of Gush Emunim, which I was the founder of together with others, which spoke about Judaea and Samaria, Judaea and Samaria and nothing else. Judaea and Samaria is part of Israel and Jews (?should also) live in Samaria. And this is our position now as it was then. Not only is this a total distortion of the original aim of Gush Emunim, I think it's a distortion of Jewish values completely. I mean this is a non-Jewish approach, the way I understand Judaism.

And I have every reason to believe that the position of Mr Hammer and myself (?if they) can reflect the vast majority of opinion of the NRP, not only in the NRP but in the national Jewish community in Israel.[sentence as heard] We want to be in Judaea and Samaria. We do not want to stay in Lebanon. We do not want to capture other territory. We do not want to be the policeman of the world. [end recoridng]

Dr Ben-Me'ir was speaking in Jerusalem at the dedication of a center for the youth movement of American Orthodox Jewry.

PERES ON JORDANIAN-PALESTINIAN STATE, ELECTIONS

TA101226 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 10 Oct 82 p 3

[Report by Moshe Meisels]

[Excerpts] The Jewish settlements on the West Bank can remain an integral part of Jordan in the framework of an Alignment peace plan. Just as there are Arab settlements under a rule which is not Arab, so can there be Jewish settlements under rule which is not Jewish. These remarks were made by Labor Party Chairman Shim'on Peres at the end of last week in a meeting in Tel Aviv with a 40-member delegation made up of directors of U.S. companies visiting Israel under the auspices of the bonds.

In an extensive lecture before the delegation, which arrived in Israel after a week of tours in Egypt, Peres presented the conditions for settling the Palestinian problem: a Jordanian-Palestinian framework, which will include all the Palestinians who live in Jordan, Judaea, Samaria and Gaza. He said there are two major conditions: "That our army remain along the Jordan River, and that the areas to be returned be demilitarized with no hostile army stationed there."

MK Peres said that this plan "was more or less accepted" by President Reagan and was also accepted in principle by Jordan, Egypt and many leaders in the West Bank, as well as "by the largest party in Israel."

He said that the Alignment's program regarding the West Bank, unlike that of the Likud coalition, "does not cancel the historic rights over all of Israel, but if one wants to be free and live in peace, if one does not want to ruin the Jewish majority in Israel, then a compromise must be found."

Fears that a Palestinian-Jordanian framework will lead to a PLO state led by 'Arafat were rejected by the opposition leader. "'Arafat constitutes a danger to the integrity of Jordan just as the PLO endangers the integrity of Israel," Peres said.

As for the Jerusalem issue and the proposals regarding the right of the Jerusalem Arabs to vote for West Bank authorities within the autonomy framework, Peres said he does not rule out the Palestinians' demand for this. "The negotiations should be without preconditions," he said.

As for forecasts on a change of governments in Israel, he said: "The crossing-over of two to three Knesset members may help us form a government even in the framework of the present Knesset." MK Peres added that if Prime Minister Begin were to call for holding elections now, the Labor Party would welcome this.

PERES VOWS NO DISMANTLING OF SETTLEMENTS

TA102019 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 10 Oct 82

[Text] Labor Party Chairman MK Shim'on Peres said this evening that if the Alignment assumes power no settlement will be dismantled and there will not be a second Yamit. Mr Peres was speaking at a rally in Beersheba. He added that the Alignment will not demolish towns, saying that it would be advisable to those who dismantled settlements not to presume to be the one who builds them.

Our party affairs correspondent Nisim Mish'al reports that Mr Peres emphasized that alongside the religious concept of Greater Israel, there is also the position of Rabbi Soloweitchik, which says that the well-being of people is more important than the integrity of the country.

NRP'S HAMMER, DRUCKMAN SPEAK ON SETTLEMENTS

TA101651 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1510 GMT 10 Oct 82

[Text] Minister Zvulun Hammer says that no political solution for Judaea and Samaria would create a situation where a Jewish settlement is either dismantled or transferred to foreign sovereignty. Hammer was speaking at a conference of yeshiva students initiated by the NRP's Young Guard. MK Hayim Druckman, who spoke after Hammer, said that he does not regard the clarifications presented by the education minister as heralding any change in the positions he had recently expressed. He added that it is unthinkable that any negotiations be conducted at all over Judaea and Samaria. Our correspondent Pe'erli Shahar heard the statements:

[Begin recording with Hammer and Druckman comments apparently recorded earlier] [Hammer] Obviously no future solution, to my mind, will create a situation where we destroy or uproot, or sit under foreign rule in our country -- and I have said this in earlier interviews. This is our country and one does not live in it under foreign rule, regardless of where you are located. Therefore, I favor settlement, no uprooting, no destroying and no aliens. However, we should keep our minds open to the large variety of options that would guarantee our remaining there, and that would enable, to the extent possible, an honest and sincere attempt to reach an arrangement not just on military elements. I do not know that we will obtain one, but an honest attempt to reach an arrangement should be made.

To those who really want to know, I would say that I believe the war in Lebanon also proved to those who needed the proof -- this is my humble opinion -- that there is no exclusively military solution at all. In general, in this region, under the present balance of power, this is certainly true.

It is necessary to have an army so that one is not destroyed, so that one is not harmed and so that one may have an impact on vital issues. However, it is necessary to know that the tendency is to reach arrangements to the extent possible.

[Shahar] Hammer added that the application of the autonomy over Judaea and Samaria could breed trust among the two nations regarding their honest intentions of peace.

In his remarks, MK Hayim Druckman addressed himself to Hammer's statements, saying: The remarks we have just heard cannot be regarded as a change in the positions as the minister presented them last week.

[Druckman] Judaea and Samaria are not subject to any negotiations. They are ours just like Tel Aviv and Petah Tiqva. Just as one cannot conceive of any concession whatsoever on Tel Aviv or Petah Tiqva, there is also no thinking of any sort of concession on Judaea and Samaria. If we begin to take into account what the Arabs do and don't accept, the truth is that they would not be happy with only getting parts of Judaea and Samaria; they want Jerusalem. [end recording]

REAGAN PLAN SAID TO INCLUDE GOLAN HEIGHTS

TA101241 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 10 Oct 82 p 2

[Report by Arab affairs correspondent Dan Avidan]

[Text] The United States recently transmitted a message to the Syrian Foreign Ministry which stated that President Reagan's plan, intended to guarantee Israel's withdrawal from the West Bank and Gaza, also includes U.S. commitment to act for Israeli withdrawal from the Golan Heights as well, and the return of the region to Syrian control. This was stated yesterday by Arab sources in Damascus who are close to the Syrian regime.

According to this version, the U.S. appeal to the Syrians came on the basis of the assumption that it will be impossible to consolidate overall Arab support for the Reagan plan as long as the Syrians do not agree to this plan.

According to the reports emanating from Damascus, it seems that President al-Asad does not reject the U.S. plan outright. For the time being, he views it as risky due to the possibility of working out a settlement on the question of the West Bank and Gaza Strip, by means of incorporating Jordan in the negotiations and under the auspices of the U.S. initiative, while bypassing the question of the future of the Golan Heights.

The sources also report that as long as a comprehensive and unconditional Israeli withdrawal is not affected from Lebanon, which is the first Syrian objective at the moment, there is no chance that President al-Asad will agree to any political settlement with Israel. In this context, Syrian papers yesterday claimed that Damascus rejects the principal of simultaneous withdrawal of the IDF forces and the Syrian Army from Lebanon, as the involvement of the Syrian Army in Lebanon is conceived of as a legitimate matter, contrary to the Israeli involvement in Lebanon.

According to the same reports, President al-Asad intends to exert heavy pressure on the PLO, while taking advantage of the Syrian control of most of the terrorist organizations, in order to prevent possible Jordanian-PLO cooperation on the U.S. plan. This results from the fear that the pragmatist group in the PLO, led by 'Arafat, aspires to reach temporary arrangements [hesderim] with King Husayn, at least as a means to isolate Israel from the United States and in compliance with the pressures from the pro-Western Arab countries.

NO 'IMPORTANCE' TO SYRIAN MINISTER'S STATEMENTS

TA111615 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1510 GMT 11 Oct 82

[Text] Jerusalem does not attach any importance to the statements of the Syrian information minister [that the seventh article of the Fes peace plan also applies to Israel]. Israeli sources say there is no significance to the Syrian statement, because the Fes summit resolutions do not include any recognition of the State of Israel. It is recalled in Jerusalem that Syria had been vehemently opposed to one of the principles of the Fahd plan, a principle recognizing the right of the countries in the region to live in peace without explicitly mentioning Israel by name.

EGYPT'S 'ALI INTERVIEWED ON RELATIONS, PEACE

TA081133 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 8 Oct 82 p 13 Weekend Supplement

[Interview with Egyptian Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali by Mira Avrekh -- date and place not given]

[Text] Israeli-Egyptian relations seem to be at an all-time low since the peace treaty between the two countries was signed. What are the reasons for this? What lies at the bottom of this deterioration? This is what I tried to learn this week during a visit to Cairo in an interview with Egyptian Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali, who immediately came up with a "scoop":

During my last visit to Israel, before Israel launched the war in Lebanon, I met with Prime Minister Menahem Begin, Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir and Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon -- the Egyptian minister reveals. Arik told me than: We cannot agree that these people, the PLO, should continue to fire at our settlements in the Galilee; if this goes on we will have to do something about it in the future. I told him then: Look, there has been no incident with the Palestinians in the north for many months. If you try to do something it will not be easy from either the political or the military point of view. Moreover, I also told him that from his personal point of view he would be committing political suicide. That was my opinion at that time and it was proved right.

Question: Perhaps you will let me begin with a question about the Egyptian ambassador to Israel. You recalled your ambassador for consultations?

Answer: Yes.

Question: How long will these consultations last?

Answer: Well, you know that this was not only a matter of consultations but an expression of our revulsion and condemnation of the Israeli action in West Beirut and the series of massacres which occurred in Beirut, and not just the last carnage which led to establishing a commission of inquiry.

Question: What are the other massacres you are talking about?

Answer: The senseless and unjustified bombings in Beirut in August which inflicted heavy casualties among the civilian population; no less than 3,000 people were killed.

Question: Are these official facts?

Answer: No, there are no official facts, but they were published here and there. Thousands of others were injured and this was also unnecessary carnage because the PLO had already agreed to get out of Beirut. Therefore, our ambassador was recalled as an expression of revulsion, unwillingness and anger.

Question: Will you send Ambassador Murtada back to Israel? In my opinion, he did an excellent job in Israel.

Answer: He will go back for sure; his duties have not ceased.

Question: Exactly when will he return to Israel?

Answer: No comment.

Question: A committee to reassess relations with Israel has been established in Egypt. What does this "reassessment" herald?

Answer: This is not a "reassessment" of the peace. Egypt is strategically committed to peace and this was emphasized in President Mubarak's speech. This is a commitment and we always fulfill our commitments and obligations. Nevertheless, a great deal of damage has been caused in the wake of Israeli actions, which we regard as contravening the peace process as a whole. It is clear that this has partly affected normalization.

Question: What do you exactly mean when you say "partly"?

Answer: Both embassies are functioning, trade continues, tourists continue to arrive from Israel....

Question: But not from Egypt to Israel....

Answer: That is true, but even before that not many Egyptian tourists went to Israel. I want to reiterate the the reassessment does not apply to the peace process or the peace treaty proper.

Question: Yet there were, for instance, economic plans which, if called off, would incur great damage to both Egypt and Israel.

Answer: Look, the Egyptian Government has not officially stopped any economic activities or projects. Normalization is usually implemented by the people themselves and the people here in Egypt do not feel that the Israeli Government acted in a way compatible with the feelings of the Egyptian people after the signing of the peace treaty. The series of actions carried out by the Israeli Government offended the feelings of the Egyptian people. It may be that as time goes on -- assuming, of course, that the Israeli Government's actions do not contradict and are in a spirit befitting an atmosphere of peace -- we will be able to encourage the notion of normalization in Egypt.

Question: It seems to me that relations largely cooled due to your press. Egyptian papers have even called us "sons of bitches." Of course, you could say that you do not control the press....

Answer: Indeed, that is a fact, we do not control the press.

Question: Still, the official media -- the radio and television -- also set out to attack us with utmost acuteness.

Answer: You must realize that by nature our press is influenced by world media. For example, all the television films showing the massacre in Beirut were aired here just as they were broadcast throughout the world. We receive our information from these media, we are not isolated. The fact is that we showed and wrote the same things shown and written in the United States and, after all, the United States is Israel's best friend. We are part of the entire world and the entire world denounced the Israeli actions in Lebanon and the bombings on Beirut; we have the same humane feelings. Why then should we not have done so?

Question: Do you believe that the man-in-the-street reacts similarly?

Answer: The Egyptian people believe in peace and believe that the Israeli people want peace.

However, the Egyptian people are confused by the sequence of actions taken by the Israeli Government: the destruction of the nuclear reactor in Iraq, the Jerusalem Law, the annexation of the Golan Heights, Israel's invasion of southern Lebanon, the siege on the capital of an Arab country and, finally, the massacre, the series of massacres, in West Beirut.

Obviously, all these had an effect on the people. However, they distinguish between the actions of the government and the feelings of the Israeli people who denounced the government. On television we saw 400,000 people, one-sixth or one-seventh of the entire Israeli population, demonstrating against the government. These are people who have faith in peace and they are the ones who cause people here to believe in peace with Israel.

Question: Is Egypt still committed to the Camp David accords?

Answer: Certainly, we are committed and we will continue to be committed to the Camp David accords in the future. However, we regard the Reagan plan as a complement designed to change the Israeli Government's approach toward autonomy. For 3 and 1/2 years we have been trying with all our strength to reach an agreement on autonomy for the Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza through negotiations. Unfortunately, the Israeli Government's approach contradicts the spirit and letter of Camp David.

Question: Have you had contacts on this issue with other Arab countries, first and foremost with King Husayn?

Answer: No, there have been no contacts.

Question: What has the Israeli Government said or done that contradicts the letter and spirit of Camp David?

Answer: Throughout the negotiations the Israeli side claimed that the autonomy applies to the people rather than the territory. According to this approach, the settlements are on Israeli soil although Palestinian inhabitants may live in those areas. There were many wrong interpretations on this issue. This is certainly not the "full autonomy" mentioned at least nine times in the Camp David accords.

Question: How do you see the peace process in the future? Do you foresee a period of freeze?

Answer: Relations will probably continue. I want to point out that an analogy cannot be drawn to relations with Syria because in this case Syria was the one that severed relations. I believe that you will never do that because you are committed to the peace process and you are bound to your commitments by the peace treaty. We will never freeze anything....

Question: A vast part of those 400,000 people who demonstrated in Tel Aviv were not opposed, for example, to the conquest of the Beaufort Castle or to a 40-km security belt. Indeed, you pointed out that nothing happened during the 10 months preceding the war, but one cannot live based on the presumption that nothing will happen in the future either. In your opinion, what should we have done instead of going into Lebanon?

Answer: I believe that there would have been no need to enter into Lebanon had the Israeli Government not proceeded in a way that proved that it is not interested in making progress toward peace and creating an atmosphere conducive to peace. The war would not have occurred had we reached an agreement in the autonomy negotiations.

Question: Do you believe that in that case the PLO would have stopped its aggression?

Answer: Yes, I believe so. The fact is that not even one shot was fired in the north for 10 months. Had the government encouraged the peace process more the war in Lebanon would not have taken place.

STATE OF RELATIONS WITH EGYPT BEING EXAMINED

TA111412 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1200 GMT 11 Oct 82

[Text] Israeli officials were this morning still studying yesterday's statement by Egypt's deputy premier and foreign minister, Kamal Hasan 'Ali, that those Israelis who thought the mines of war and confrontation in the Middle East had been defused were mistaken. The Egyptian minister added that if it were to be durable, peace must be comprehensive. The state of relations between Jerusalem and Cairo is examined by Arye Haskell:

[Begin Haskell recording] The Egyptians are balancing on a high wire. In reaction to Israel's Peace for Galilee Operation they effectively froze relations between the two countries. Not only are the talks on Palestinians left in limbo, but negotiations on outstanding bilateral issues -- such as the delineation of the border in the Elat area -- are also suspended. However, in the opinion of Israeli observers of the Middle East scene, Egyptians are being punctilious in observing the peace treaty with Israel. As one Middle East expert put it: They are determined to be correct and are afraid to go too far because the last thing they want is to become involved once more in the cycle of wars from which the late President as-Sadat freed them. At the same time, prospects for the renewal of the peace process are considered slim at this point. President Husni Mubarak was never as committed to this as was As-Sadat. In addition, because of the Lebanon war those who had been critical of As-Sadat's actions inside Egypt, and elsewhere inside the Arab world, had become more vocal and are putting pressure on Mubarak.

Nevertheless, some observers think it would be a mistake to view the attacks on Israel by Egyptian leaders purely in the context of Cairo's efforts to reestablish formal relations with those Arab countries -- and, of course, they are the bulk -- which severed them in the wake of the Camp David agreements and the peace treaty. These observers see no early prospects for the reestablishment of diplomatic relations between Egypt and the rest of the Arab world, but point out that short of exchanging ambassadors, Cairo has de facto ties with most of the important Arab states and Cairo is once more the crossroads of the Arab world. [end recording]

LEVI QUESTIONED ON POLITICAL SITUATION

TA081428 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1118 GMT 8 Oct 82

[Telephone interview with Deputy Prime Minister David Levi by correspondent Arye Golan on 8 October -- live]

[Text] [Question] We heard you say this week that there was no escaping elections because of the foul atmosphere in Israel. What do you mean exactly? Who is creating the foul atmosphere in the country?

[Answer] I am in favor of early elections. I think that the national interest requires it, and there are three reasons for this. One, the difficult, foul atmosphere in the public. We have reached a situation in which everything is permissible, and the effort to topple the government sanctifies every means. And if we do not reach this conclusion, I am very fearful that we are moving toward a very dangerous polarization which will weaken us, or, I would say more than this, toward fatigue among the people and even, God forbid, despair.

[Question] Would you say, Sir, that there is also a foul atmosphere in the coalition? When you were speaking about an effort to topple the government, involved are contacts by coalition factions in order...

[Levi -- interrupting] I wanted to get to that. I said there are three reasons. First, the atmosphere, and no one can deny that fact. Second, the delicate parliamentary situation in which the discussions are becoming stormy purposely. The desire to attract another Knesset member, another partner, by every means and at all costs -- this is certainly not the expression of the majority of the people, which is expressed in every parliament and in every normal situation.

Here, we are likely to have -- or are already in the process of having -- a situation in which anyone, any partner, can tip the scales in important matters, against the voter's will, and against the way of the large camp that attracted him or in which he is.

Third, these two elements weaken us in the political trials which face the country. One thing is known: A country split internally is more susceptible to pressure and does not have the strength to stand firmly in matters vital to its survival. For these three reasons, I think that the best way is to hold elections. I fully believe that the atmosphere will then change, the public will say what it has to say, and perhaps we will reach a point where the opposition and coalition will see together the responsible and fateful matters resting on our shoulders. In this situation, we have reached, I would say, a course without exit, in which negotiation is impossible and in which we have no reason.

[Question] Mr Deputy Prime Minister, I detect in what you are saying a fear that someone from the coalition is likely to soon cross the floor and join the Alignment.

[Answer] I am not dealing here in prophecies and theory. As long...

[Question -- interrupting] According to the information you have?

[Answer] According to the information I have, it is no secret that there is a constant effort to topple the government by any means and at all costs. This is definitely unhealthy, simply because it is by every means and at all costs. This also clouds intelligent vision and consideration, also in the second camp -- that is, in the opposition. The toppling of the government in itself, in a correctly run country, and especially in our country with the fateful issues on our agenda, is by no means the be-all and end-all. Therefore, I am very afraid that we are moving to a situation in which nothing is holy, and everything will be conducted under this same atmosphere and by means of the same political manipulations to the point of sanctioning RAKAH, as the supporter of a political line, when the toppling of the government is the most important thing.

[Question] The opposition is demanding the resignation of Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon. We also heard Deputy Prime Minister Simha Ehrlich speak about this last week. What is your view? Would you say that Sharon still enjoys the confidence of the prime minister, and the Cabinet, and that he can and should remain in office?

[Answer] I did not hear Mr Ehrlich speak, as you said. And if he thinks so, then he should raise it in the Cabinet and before the coalition; he has not done so.

[Question] What is your view?

[Answer] I am against it. The coalition or the government cannot vote and say amen to every demand of the opposition. The opposition also says, and the two things go together: Begin, resign! So we should stand at attention, and say okay? The government is a collective one, and it conducts the policy for which all its members are responsible.

[Question] Recently you tried to return 'Ezer Weizman to Herut and you said that you abandoned your efforts in view of the prime minister's firm position.

[Answer] Yes, a few months ago, not recently. This is no secret. I did not do this clandestinely. I thought that this would be good for the Likud.

[Question] Why did you set your will aside for the will of the prime minister?

[Answer] I keep my considerations to myself. I repeat: I can think that a certain thing is good for the movement. I cannot act against the will of the movement's leader.

If the chairman of the movement does not regard this thing as vital and desirable, then I will stop pursuing it. And so I stopped then.

[Question] But in your estimation, will 'Ezer Weizman yet return to a position of power in Herut or the government?

[Answer] I do not deal in prophecies. I can analyze a situation; I can read a map. I thought at the time, to repeat, that it would be good if 'Ezer Weizman returned to the Herut movement.

[Question] Will it happen at some point in the distant future?

[Answer] Whether it will happen, I do not know. I can express my opinion, but it can by no means be decisive in a political movement with a chairman who is a man who enjoys my faith and loyalty, and I act according to the cooperation and understanding between us.

BEGIN SURE NRP WILL REMAIN IN COALITION

TA110933 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0917 GMT 11 Oct 82

[Text] Prime Minister Menahem Begin has suggested that the heads of the National Religious Party [NRP] extend the chief rabbi's term of service by 2 or 3 years. In the meeting attended by Ministers Burg and Hammer and Deputy Minister Ben-Me'ir, the prime minister said that he is sure that the NRP has no intention of leaving the coalition; therefore, he does not want to discuss it.

Regarding extending the chief rabbi's term of office, the NRP officials said that they should consult with the rabbis and heads of yeshivot, and that the final decision on this matter will be reached within a week or two.

Deputy Minister Yehuda Ben-Me'ir told our correspondent Gil'ad Mishori that he does not want to say anything about Rabbi Goren's threat to establish a new party. He said: I am used to treating rabbis with respect, but not everything should be commented upon.

The meeting lasted about an hour and those present noted that it took place in a good atmosphere. During the meeting the NRP officials asked that the activities of the Hesder Yeshivot be extended.

HAMMER ON ALIGNMENT AS ALTERNATIVE IN POWER

TA102016 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2000 GMT 10 Oct 82

[Text] Education Minister Zvulun Hammer has said that the Alignment should not be ruled out in terms of a possible future partnership in the government, but added that at present it would not engage in any hasty action to overthrow the administration. He was speaking in Bene Beraq at a conference of Hesder Yeshivot students. Hammer said that the Alignment must change many things regarding its attitude to Judaism and nationalism, but nonetheless that part of the nation, which in fact comprises half of the nation and which had quite a large representation both in the army and in the population, should not be ruled out. In the future, he emphasized, the National Religious Party [NRP] will join forces in partnership with the power that will provide it with the best opportunity to express itself. He added that the NRP should learn how to highlight its message even in a partnership with a body which maintains close positions, such as the Likud.

Another participant in the conference, Rabbi Yehuda 'Amital, who is the head of the Har Zion Yeshiva, spoke against the Ari'el Sharon government, calling for the establishment of a government with the Alignment. Rabbi 'Amital said that the key position in the government should be in Zvulun Hammer's hands, in which case it will be impossible to do a thing without the Orthodox Jewry.

Rabbi Hayim Druckman told the Hesder Yeshivot students that partnership with the Alignment spells the partitioning of Eretz Yisra'el, which is why this is unacceptable.

REPORTAGE ON FRENCH-AFRICAN SUMMIT 8-9 OCT

Mobutu Opening Address

AB082030 Kinshasa Domestic Service in French 1124 GMT 8 Oct 82

[Zairian President Mobutu Sese Seko address at the opening of the ninth French and African heads of state conference in Kinshasa on 8 October -- live -- intercepted in progress]

[Excerpts] The conference of French and African heads of state, thanks to the concrete actions that it could suggest, can make an invaluable contribution to the acceleration of the independence process of Namibia. We hope that France, an eminent member of the contact group, can play a decisive role as a privileged witness of the concerns of African heads of state and government as far as this issue is concerned, by using its influence with other members of the contact group and even with South Africa.

Conscious of its responsibilities toward Africa, Zaire will do everything possible within its means and in consultation with other OAU and UN members to contribute to the accession of Namibia to independence in 1983. To speak about this is somehow to talk of the painful situation in which the black people of South Africa have been living for decades now.

To these populations, victims of this type of humiliation in this 20th century, under the shameful yoke of the criminal policy of apartheid, we say that Zaire, in unison with all peace, justice and equality loving people in the world, associates itself with their just struggle for national liberation and the recovery of their rights. The prevailing situation in southern Africa has all the characteristics of a colonial situation, aggravated by the fact that racism and racial discrimination are enshrined in a government policy called apartheid. This policy has been condemned by the United Nations and the entire world community which sees it as a crime against humanity. Consequently, this criminal policy has been condemned by the entire world.

Each state, each member of the international community, has the duty to contribute to the abolition of this system and the eradication of apartheid by abstaining from doing anything that can directly or indirectly encourage South Africa to pursue this course and to deny the black people of South Africa their inalienable rights and their fundamental freedom. We are not saying that the white people should be thrown into the sea, they have lived in South Africa for several centuries. It would amount to naivety and a lack of realism. However, our dearest wish is to see a really democratic society emerge in South Africa. This society should be led by a majority and should guarantee the rights of all minority groups without any distinction of race, color, sex or religion.

Your excellencies, Mr Prime Minister, distinguished guests, the recent events in Lebanon have unveiled the extreme complexity of the Middle East crisis where the situation remains precarious and continues to disturb the conscience of world opinion. Alas, one can notice that the search for a just and durable settlement of the Middle East crisis is following a difficult path. And yet, we have heard of so many initiatives and peace plans from the international community during the past few years.

Is there any need to repeat that the settlement of the Middle East conflict is based particularly on the recognition of the right of each state in the region to live in peace within safe and recognized frontiers, the respect of the territorial integrity, the political independence and the sovereignty of each state, the mutual recognition of the states in the region, the respect of the principle of [words indistinct] of territories through the use of force, the recognition of the Palestinian issue, which is at the center of the Middle East issue, and finally the recognition and the respect of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people, including their right to create an independent and sovereign state under the leadership of the PLO -- sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people? The UN Security Council and specifically the five permanent members should assume their responsibilities by embarking on new initiatives that could guarantee the security, stability and integrity of all the states in the region. The Palestinian people have the same rights as the people of Israel: those of organizing themselves in an independent state, having a fatherland and living in peace within safe and recognized borders without use of force. Any appeal, direct or indirect, calling for the recognition of the State of Israel by the Arab states and vice versa, should have the support of the international community and would be understood in the context of the real political situation in that region. [applause]

Concerning Lebanon, we are happy about the numerous initiatives made by France in the political and humanitarian fields. France has done this both alone and in cooperation with other countries in order to put an end to the Lebanese crisis. Zaire, as a member of the Security Council, supported the 10 resolutions adopted by the Security Council, since the beginning of the Lebanese issue and it will continue to support the effective implementation of these resolutions in the interest [words indistinct].

Zaire, whose policy is based on the aims and principles of the UN Charter and which attaches great importance to the role of this international organization also has condemned the massacre of the Palestinian civilians in Shatila and Sabra. There is no reason, morale, pretext that could be found to legalize the massacre of the civilian and innocent populations. Those responsible for the massacres cannot go free in the eyes of international conscience.

Your Excellencies, Mr Prime Minister, distinguished delegates, the enumeration of these conflicts and the hotbeds I have just mentioned clearly indicates that the maintenance of international peace and security is one of the prerequisites for any harmonious development of people. Therefore, the problem of security should be tackled from the angle of peace, progress and development as well as the instauration of necessary measures to build and strengthen conscience in relations among nations and peoples. In fact, whatever the political willingness and the financial and technological support leaders may have, or even despite the economic growth of their countries, nothing can be achieved without peace, stability and security. This is particularly true of Africa. Of what use is a beautiful building if it is not provided with lightning rods to protect it in case of lightning? In my mind, economic development is the beautiful building and security, the lightning rod. [applause]

Today, after having regained our soul, we can be legitimately proud to search for means toward economic development. Certainly, it is an ambition that we cannot pursue alone, but we can hope to come closer to it thanks to the resolved and friendly support of our great friendly countries, who, like France, would like to save Africa from the aftermath of the antagonism prevailing in the world and who would also like to lay the bases for a new North-South dialogue.

The problems of cooperation in the economic and social fields are the greatest concern because in this turbulent [word indistinct] and unjust world, Africa feels the imperious need for an open and impartial dialogue, particularly in view of the egoism of the rich. What we need is uncomplacent lucidity and total frankness in the appreciation of relations between the rich and poor countries.

I would not like to make any condemnation, but without blaming them alone for these our immense difficulties, the industrialized countries are greatly responsible for this situation. As of now, 1982 has confirmed the most pessimistic predictions. The trust we have endeavored to preserve at all costs has been wearing away speedily. The possibility of an international financial crisis, which has been referred to without much conviction, clearly appears as totally plausible. When times become hard, it is a fact that they are always harder for the poorer countries. This is a proven fact and it has always been so. This has been exactly the case with the developing countries, with a particularly more severe consequence for our continent.

African countries are vulnerable in all spheres. The international economic crisis has hit them mercilessly. This concerns the prices of raw materials -- fixed independently, let us even say, arbitrarily -- by the industrialized countries who buy them. However, for most of us, these materials are the major source of trade revenue needed to finance our imports. This also affects the balance of payments, the growth of our internal production and the safeguarding of the purchasing power of our people. All has been dramatically affected by the economic crisis. Presently, the international community is passing through a period of recession caused essentially by the fundamental structural instability in international economic relations.

The current international economic system, which has been built on injustice, inequality and exploitation, is incompatible with the developmental needs of our young nations. [applause] In fact, while the production capacity of developed countries continues to suffer from evergrowing unemployment and inflation, the developing countries are experiencing a most serious development crisis due largely to external factors. Most of these factors are beyond their control. And Zaire, which has been associated right from the start with the North-South dialogue and which has been a privileged witness to the efforts of the Group of 77 aimed at restructuring international economic relations and the establishment of a new economic order, is more than ever aware of the need for a new system of international relations based on the equitable distribution of the world's wealth.

Our desire for opening and the importance we attach to the promotion of relations of friendship and cooperation with all world countries are prompted by the well-established fact that ideological and political differences as well as differences in levels of development are not an obstacle to cooperation. Yet, at this present moment, efforts toward multilateral cooperation have given way to bilateral cooperation. On the other hand, while African Third World countries are expecting too much from the industrialized countries, some of these industrialized countries -- under the pressure of the crisis and a new concept of North-South cooperation -- give new orientation to their policy toward the developing countries. It is the rule of "everyone for himself, the market for all and, of course, God for no one." [applause]

The present meeting of the heads of state of France and Africa offers a new, supplementary opportunity for examining the obstacles and difficulties hampering the smooth running of the North-South dialogue and on the holding of global negotiations.

This North-South dialogue, which was initiated by France, appears to us as an irreplaceable framework for negotiations between industrialized countries and the developing ones, aimed at establishing a new international economic order. The United Nations already has identified the fields in which these negotiations should be held: raw materials, which represent basic products; commerce, development of energy; exchange rates and finance; growing debts and problems relating to the stabilization of the balance of payment; food security and agriculture; and industrialization. It is specifically in these fields that the developing countries have the most serious difficulties. Therefore, it is necessary to find appropriate and lasting short and long term solutions to these problems in a global, coherent and integrated manner within the framework of global negotiations. In this regard, we accept the positions adopted by the developed countries during their different summits at Ottawa, Cancun and Versailles concerning global negotiations. We hope these positions will be transformed into action. The commitments made must be honored in order to hasten the process of the North-South dialogue and the launching of global negotiations within the framework of the United Nations.

Excellencies, dear presidents and dear colleagues, dear prime ministers and distinguished delegates, throughout my speech, I have shared with you reflections on economic, political and sociocultural problems facing the international community as a whole and developing countries particularly. I have stressed the responsibility of the members of the present summit in the field of international cooperation and development and the determining role of France, a partner well-known for its attachment to the fundamental liberty of man and to the defense of the interest of peoples. I want to submit for your appreciation a series of proposals that could mark the subsequent stages of the deliberations of the historical conference of the heads of state of France and Africa. It is my ardent hope that this Kinshasa summit will contribute to the realization of our most sincere wishes, namely, the strengthening of relations of cooperation between France and Africa, the security of our states, the resumption of the North-South dialogue and global negotiations, the revaluation of our export revenues and finally the strengthening of our ability to meet our developmental needs and to fully participate in the decisionmaking process in international institutions.

Mr President of the Republic of France, before concluding, I would like to express to you the sincere fondness that the people of Zaire have for you [applause] and the place and the joy your first visit to Zaire gives them. Amid all the problems of survival facing us, ranging from just payment for our raw materials, the foreign indebtedness of our countries and repeated interference into our purely internal affairs, we count on the support of France, which you represent, this France appearing as the lawyer of good reason for the Third World.

Recall please 1958 -- 24 years ago when General de Gaulle in Brazzaville, which you can admire by looking across to the other bank of the Zaire River, tolled the bell for colonialism by giving decisive orientation to the political destiny of the French-African states. That was in the political sphere. You are in Kinshasa today in different spheres -- economic and security. In this case, Mr President, we do not want to consider you simply as the French president, but we want you to be the one to usher in a new era by guaranteeing the security of African states to the advantage of their economic development. Thank you. [applause] Henceforth, Kinshasa will see you as the guarantor of the security of African states and the privileged advocate on whom they can count internationally for the defense of their economic interests. [applause]

To my colleagues -- my colleagues the African heads of state who are present at this important Kinshasa meeting -- it is my duty to thank you very sincerely for responding to our invitation. Your permanent readiness for the economic development of our continent has once more prevailed over your many great duties as heads of state. Your gesture honors Africa. [applause]

Finally, I would like to wish all our remarkable guests a happy stay on this hospitable African Zairian soil. At the same time I am looking forward to the success of this meeting of heads of state of France and Africa and its contribution to world peace, to the security of states, to the equitable distribution of wealth and riches of the world and to the establishment of a new international economic order.

France-Africa cooperation, oyez! International cooperation, oyez. Thank you. [applause]

Mitterrand Address

AB081726 Kinshasa Domestic Service in French 1208 GMT 8 Oct 82

[French President Francois Mitterrand's address to the opening session of the conference of African and French heads of state in Kinshasa on 8 October -- live]

[Excerpts] Mr President and our host, heads of state, heads of delegations, ladies and gentlemen: First of all, I would like to address the thanks of France and -- I imagine -- of all countries represented here to Zaire and its people who have reserved the best hospitality for us and to tell President Mobutu how very touched we are by the attention he is paying us. [applause] During these 2 days, we will discuss precise issues [words indistinct] and prepare solutions. After this, we will, during the coming months, ensure that what we discuss among ourselves is concretized.

The significance of this meeting has just been expressed in excellent terms. As you know, the ninth meeting of the heads of state of Africa and France is primarily a meeting of French-speaking countries. This is the main point. However, in view of the community of interests, the importance of the problems and the need for a larger exchange of ideas, these summits have become a meeting which, as it can be noted today, is very representative of the general interests of Africa and of France which remains faithful to the original purpose [words indistinct]. However, the French-speaking countries must remain in contact with their neighbors who represent the continent in its geographic and historical realities. It is necessary that they should meet with them to hold discussions. These are two themes around which we organize our dialogues. [passage indistinct]

The conference of the heads of state of Africa and France has no intention of serving as a substitute for anyone and particularly not for the OAU. We have neither the mandate nor the intention to do this. [applause] Is it necessary for me to repeat that it is for the OAU to make up its own mind? And it is at the high and privileged level of the OAU that the African states must express their common desires. France is of the opinion that it is their friend but it is not one of them. [break in transmission]

For how long have the so-called developing Third World countries been asking that global negotiations be held within the United Nations? [break in transmission] France has decided to contribute 0.15 percent of its gross national product for assistance to the less advanced countries. We began with a contribution of 0.08 percent. We will attain the desired limit in 1985 and this will represent 20 billion francs.

In short, having noted the decrease in the multilateral aids in which we maintain our contributions without taking into account the failures of (?other contributors), we have decided to make further contributions to bilateral assistance because we cannot do otherwise at the moment. And in these bilateral aids, we give priority to our African partners. This is also one of the reasons we are now here together. It is also because history -- through diverse, contradictory, happy and unhappy situations -- has created a powerful bond among us.

However, ladies and gentlemen, I would not say that this is a generous act on the part of France. We are not simply going to place these discussions on the level of sentiments. Sentiments will not be absent, however. I rejoice over the human relations that have existed for so long and that have been expanded, increased and deepened. This is necessary for the conduct of public affairs and they are in the well-understood interest of both the developing and industrialized countries. Both parties will witness the affirmation of their capacity for progress only if they are able to conduct a coherent policy of joint development. However, it must be understood that France, itself involved in the tempest of world crisis, cannot alone serve as a substitute for the great countries that [words indistinct] did not understand or that thought it wiser for them to clip their wings and limit their vision of the world to the relationship between military forces without knowing that a force -- less visible no doubt but more lasting -- lies in the capacity of a people to affirm independence through the quality of production, the vigor of creations, [words indistinct] and human resources.

Although it would be unjust to pretend that France is the only country that understands its duty -- and I would not pretend this -- it is true that we believe that you, gentlemen, must find a (?relief) [word indistinct] EEC and that although the voice of France has not yet succeeded as it should on the world scene to shake up the presumptions and (?prejudices) of many major industrialized countries, it has been largely heard in the already vast forum represented by the Community of Ten.

Need I recall that this community has practiced a constant opening up of markets and that it has rejected the alibis of protectionism and will continue to reject them? Need I recall also that it has become the first trading partner of the Third World, particularly Africa? [break in transmission] [passage indistinct] As you know, France's representative within the European Community, that is, the present French minister of external relations, played a decisive role. Gentlemen, [words indistinct] the Lome convention is in danger and it is necessary to have one's feet firmly on the ground and to avoid enlarging it beyond reasonable limits and even to avoid enlarging it so as to deepen the quality of our contributions. It is necessary to consolidate the achievements of the second Lome convention by taking action for example on the export revenues which is a top priority and by encouraging regional cooperation among yourselves, the heads of state, because there is a dimension which is becoming increasingly apparent to a number of you and which France does not need to adopt because it is hers: the development of South-South cooperation. It is not only necessary to envisage new relationships between the North and the South but also [words indistinct] to envisage a special South-South cooperation. The principle that I take the liberty to recommend and that I put into practice within the European Community of Ten as well as in international institutions remains the most pertinent selection of investments. All investments are not good. [passage indistinct]

I must repeat that absolute priority must be accorded to self-sufficiency in food production, [words indistinct], independence in energy, control of urban population explosion of which some of you as well as some European cities are suffering dramatically and a systematic search for a self-sustained development [words indistinct].

The honor you accord France by considering it as your friend -- I was going to add the honor you accord France by relying on it and its friendship and civility -- imposes on us the obligation to be present, the obligation to fulfill our promises and the obligation to speak frankly. [applause] We must say what we can do and what we cannot do. I have too much esteem for you, gentlemen, to fail to use this language. [passage indistinct]

As I have just said, I will be brief because almost everything has been said in the inaugural address of the chairman of the ninth summit conference. However, I will conclude with the examination of some problems relating to security in Africa and world peace.

Security: In the past and also presently, France has concluded, with a number of countries represented here, agreements which I would call alliance agreements that also exist in Europe and in the West and East and between France and other partners. This is a law of the world. [passage indistinct] Well, for France and the man I am -- an heir of the great tradition of the French political life -- the themes of collective security, arbitration and disarmament retain all their force. [applause] The right of peoples to dispose of themselves -- this is almost like a (?passage) in a French comedy and almost something one repeats all the time and which finally loses every sense -- is there any stronger truth in this modern world? All of you gentlemen present here have fought to ensure that the people you represent may freely dispose of themselves. Naturally, t' is is for you the sacred basis of your commitment. Please know that France -- which has lived through painful experiences during the past 2 centuries and which was obliged to build its own capacity to live in independence with the help of some great universal principles -- please know that there is no principle dearer to France than that of independence. Please know that France is with you, gentlemen, and will remain by your side whenever your independence is threatened. [passage indistinct]

Mr President, you have talked about the problem of Chad in your inaugural address. [passage indistinct] like any other people, the Chadian people have the right to live within the framework of the history they are building every day. France will surely respond to any demand to contribute to anything that may be done for the renaissance, reconstruction and unity of that country. It is not France's duty to make decisions in the place of the Chadian people.

You are aware of the role my country is playing in the five-nation contact group within the framework and the mandate of UN Resolution 435. Yes, it is necessary that Namibia should acceed to independence in accordance with the terms recognized by the international community. It is necessary that its people should have the right to exist.

Mitterrand's 'Violent Tirade'

LD081914 [Editorial report] Paris Domestic Service in French at 1800 GMT on 8 October reports on the Kinshasa conference opening. In mentioning "the very serious" speeches of Presidents Mobutu and Mitterrand, it says:

"The French President then launched into a violent tirade against the United States. He accused the Americans of being responsible for the intolerable situation in which the Third World finds itself, and he further reproached the United States for its lack of imagination and cutting of development aid. Then he attacked the dollar":

[Begin recording] "Today it is a dominant currency that does not correspond in any way to economic realities. It is a currency of speculation that weighs heavily on the exchange rates of those who must obtain their primary materials through the intermediary of this currency. It is a currency that, having achieved this status, seems not to have understood its duty because by its unconsidered and erratic movements it leaves most of the world's countries, above all the developing countries, in a situation that is practically intolerable." [end recording]

Further Report

AB081759 Paris AFP in English 1506 GMT 8 Oct 82

[Excerpts] Kinshasa, Oct 8 (AFP) -- French President Francois Mitterrand today accused the industrialized world dominated by the United States of responsibility for the "intolerable" situation in the Third World, and assured African countries of French aid.

In a one hour speech at the opening of the ninth Franco-African summit here President Mitterrand singled out Washington for strong criticism, saying that the erratic movements of the dominant dollar, unrelated to any economic context, "place most countries in an intolerable situation, and above all the developing countries."

Mr Mitterrand also attacked Washington for cutting back development aid, and industrialized countries in general for "the growing obstinacy, timidity, and lack of imagination towards development in the Third World."

The French president criticized disorganization in the international monetary system, the silence of the World Bank over energy problems and the deterioration of terms of trade.

He urged guaranteed commodity prices, food self-sufficiency, "self-centered development" and the consolidation of the Lome agreements between the European Economic Community and the developing states of Africa, the Caribbean and the Pacific.

The French president called world peace and security the "very conditions for development." He assured his audience of leaders from 43 African countries, including 20 heads of state, that "France is with you and remains with you at every threat to your independence."

Mr Mitterrand said that France would "respond to any request in connection with the revival and reconstruction of Chad for the sake of its unity." He added, "It is not for us to decide on behalf of the Chadian people."

Mr Mitterrand said that France would "scrupulously respect its undertakings" regarding the security, independence and unity of African countries. In a situation of local conflict France would have recourse to international institutions, he said.

Conference Co-chairman President Mobutu Sese Seko of Zaire also referred to Mr Habre as "president of the Republic of Chad" and called for international action to provide "substantial financial aid" to that country.

General Mobutu, whose country is on the verge of being officially declared bankrupt by its creditors, also attacked the attitude of the industrialized states. "In our immense difficulties, their responsibility is a heavy one," he said. He deplored the fact that some industrialized nations "under the pressure of crisis and a new concept of North-South cooperation" were giving a new direction to their policies towards developing countries. "It is a question of every man for himself and the Devil take the hindmost," General Mobutu said.

SWAPO Message

AB081843 Luanda ANGOP in French 1812 GMT 8 Oct 82

[Text] Luanda, 8 Oct (ANGOP) -- In a memorandum addressed to the French-African summit now being held in Kinshasa, SWAPO announced that "the process which was to lead Namibia to independence through a negotiated solution is now virtually at a standstill."

In the meantime, continues SWAPO, South Africa's apartheid regime is intensifying its coldblooded assassination of several Namibians, torturing them and burning their villages and plantations in a desperate attempt to force them to agree to Pretoria imposing a puppet government on them.

The vanguard of the Namibian people announced that after some progress had been made in the negotiations for a peaceful solution to the Namibian problem, the Governments of the United States and South Africa decided to establish a connection between the independence of the illegally occupied Namibian territory and the presence of the Cuban internationalist troops in Angola.

SWAPO further blames the United States for causing the suffering and agony of the Namibian nation because of its overall geostrategic interests and objectives. The Namibian question, SWAPO reaffirms, is purely and simply a colonial and illegal occupation and the presence of the Cubans is an entirely different matter.

SWAPO recalls further that when the Western "contact group" asked for the terms of reference to serve as mediator between SWAPO and South Africa on the independence of Namibia, the withdrawal of Cuban troops was not included.

According to the memorandum, the Namibian nationalist movement is pleased with the fair and proper stand taken by the French Government and calls on the heads of state meeting in Kinshasa to take a stand against American and South African attempts to further delay Namibia's independence.

In conclusion, SWAPO states its readiness to implement the UN plan and to submit to the verdict of the Namibian people through free and democratic elections under UN supervision and control.

9 October Meetings

AB090719 Paris AFP in English 0401 GMT 9 Oct 82

[Excerpts] Kinshasa, Oct 9 (AFP) -- The participants in the ninth Franco-African summit have decided to give up a formal session set for today and to replace it with a series of bilateral meetings. [Words indistinct] reporters, "are totally consistent with the spirit of the summit that should essentially place emphasis on dialogue."

Mr Mitterrand's meetings are to be with his co-chairman and host at the conference, President Mobutu Sese Seko of Zaire, President Felix Houphouet-Boigny of the Ivory Coast and President Omar Bongo of Gabon.

During the afternoon, a brief closing ceremony is scheduled for the people's palace. A final communique will be issued after the ceremony. Mr Mitterrand will then host a reception at the French Embassy, where all delegations at the summit are expected.

Friday's opening was marked by Mr Mitterrand's speech. Moreover, Mr Mitterrand met with the Chadian leader [Hissein Habre] for nearly an hour, and later said he would "accelerate, because of the urgency," aid credits to Chad that are already budgeted.

French aid to Chad for 1982 amounts to 63 million French francs (9.8 million dollars), according to informed sources close to Mr Mitterrand. "Chad decided to give itself a new dominant force," he said. "That is its affair, not mine. There is no independence without unity," he added. The Chadian state that France recognizes now has a central power, a national army and an administration."

Mr Habre, meanwhile, said he hoped that priority would be given to the ordering of the country's adminstration, and to technical aid.

Final Communique

AB110626 Kinshasa Domestic Service in French 1130 GMT 10 Oct 82

[Communique on ninth conference of French and African heads of state issued in Kinshasa on 9 October -- read by Zairian State Commissioner for Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation Yoka Mangono]

[Text] The ninth conference of French and African heads of state was held in Kinshasa on 8 and 9 October at the invitation of Gen Mobutu Sese Seko, founding chairman and president of the Republic of Zaire.

The following 37 states took part in the conference as members or observers. The members are: Benin, Burundi, Comoros, Congo, Ivory Coast, Djibouti, France, Gabon, Upper Volta, Mali, Mauritius, Mauritania, Niger, CAR, Rwanda, Senegal, Chad, Togo and Zaire. The observer states were: Angola, Cape Verde, Egypt, Gambia, Guinea-Bissau, Equatorial Guinea, Liberia, Morocco, Mozambique, Nigeria, Sao Tome and Principe, Sierra Leone, Seychelles, Sudan, Tanzania, Tunisia, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

Nineteen countries were represented by their heads of state; others, by their prime ministers, foreign affairs ministers or Cabinet members.

The heads of state and delegations learned with pain about the tragedy in Liberia and expressed their sympathy and solidarity to the Liberian people. The heads of state and delegations noted with high interest all speeches. They expressed satisfaction with the holding of the ninth conference which enabled an extensive and fruitful review of economic, political and cultural issues and which are of common concern.

During their meeting, the heads of state delegations expressed their concern over the deterioration of the international economic situation, which has hit African countries with particular acuteness, especially the least advanced countries.

They suggested urgent and concerted solutions to the delicate problem of the constant deterioration of terms of trade. To give full effectiveness to the joint fund and to the integrated programs of basic products, they expressed the desire for massive ratification of the accord calling for the setting up of this fund, renewed their determination to work for the stabilization of prices of raw materials and called for global negotiations within the framework of the United Nations. They also called for the continued efforts by UNCTAD and other international institutions. They stressed the importance of security as an ingredient for peace, stability and development. They also stressed the urgent need to reduce hotbeds in the world particularly in Africa and the instauration of necessary measures that would increase confidence in international relations.

They particularly called for increased efforts in food self-sufficiency and international cooperation for development, which is a political target of high priority. The heads of state and delegations held an extensive exchange of views on Namibia, which must necessarily gain independence in 1983, on southern Africa and on the Middle East, particularly on the tragic events in Lebanon. They also renewed the Paris call on all countries to assist Chad in its reconstruction. The heads of state and delegations expressed to Citizen Mobutu Sese Seko, founding president of the MPR and president of the Republic of Zaire, their sincere thanks and their profound gratitude for the particularly warm welcome accorded them. At the invitation of France, the next conference of the heads of state of France and Africa will be held in France in 1983.

Issued in Kinshasa, 9 October 1982

Houphouet-Boigny Comments

AB110949 Abidjan Domestic Service in French 0745 GMT 11 Oct 82

[Excerpts] President Houphouet-Boigny has returned home. The head of state was absent from the country for a few days. He was in Zaire, where he took part in the ninth summit of French and African heads of state.

Before bidding farewell to the Zairian president he held a news conference. First, he sincerely thanked the Zairian head of state for the welcome. During this meeting with the media, President Houphouet-Boigny stressed the need for meetings between French and African leaders.

[Begin Houphouet-Boigny recording] We had contacts. As far as I am concerned, they were very fruitful. But, there is a principle, and our colleague explained it very clearly yesterday. It is a basic principle. This principle is that of the admission of states within our organization.

A state we are admitting to our organization must be sovereign and independent. This principle must be respected. If not, the door will be flung open for all kinds of whims. We can vote to create states. We can vote to dissolve states. I think our position should be understood.

It is not a fundamental problem but a matter of principle. A resolution has been submitted to our organization. King Hassan II himself proposed this resolution for the holding of a referendum for the self-determination of Western Sahara. A commission was set up to implement this resolution. We must all fight to see that this resolution becomes a reality. Of course, there are serious obstacles. When you say referendum, you mean elections. When you say elections, you refer to the voters. We do not yet know who the voters are. But it is the duty of the commission to ensure that free elections are held, resulting in the OAU's expectations. If the elections favor the SDAR, we will recognize it, and if they are favorable to Morocco, we must all bow to the people's verdict.

The five great powers which, for 5 years now, have discussed the future of Namibia, are experiencing great difficulties in mapping out an acceptable solution to all parties, an electoral law that is accepted by all. But they have not lost hope in attaining a positive result. [end recording]

Angola Attends as Observer

AB081353 Luanda ANGOP in French 0925 GMT 8 Oct 82

[Text] Luanda, 8 Oct (ANGOP) -- Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs Venancio de Moura is heading a ministerial delegation that arrived in Kinshasa Thursday to represent the Angolan head of state, Eduardo Dos Santos, at the French-African summit being held today and tomorrow. The Angolan delegation will attend the meeting as an observer.

LIBYA

AL-QADHDHAFI ADDRESSES PEOPLE'S CONGRESS 9 OCT

LD102022 Tripoli JANA in English 1841 GMT 10 Oct 82

[Quotation marks as received]

[Text] Al-Bayyan al Awwal, Dhulhijja 24, Oct, 10, Jamahiriyah News Agency -- As part of the continuous inciting for the strengthening of people's authority and people's democratic process, Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the revolution, yesterday attended the lst session of the Basic People's Congress (BPC) in its 3rd regular session at Al-Bayyan al Awwal city.

The leader in his speech addressed the BPC's which are holding their 3rd regular session prior to the General People's Congress (GPC), through Al-Bayyan al Awwal's (BPC).

In his speech, the leader, stressed two main points. First, the democratic way in which the BPC puts the items for discussion on the agenda especially the general agenda by which the masses of the BPC decide the democratic and foreign policies.

In this respect, the leader said that from now on the masses will put forward the agenda in order to further stress that the Libyan people are free and the masters of themselves without a ruler or a government.

Colonel al-Qadhdhafi said the people's committees will be one of the sources for formulating the agenda through the files which are to be tabled to the people's congresses in all fields. He said the people's committees will assume such a role because as they are also responsible for implementing the resolutions of the people's congresses, these congresses might ask them to issue laws or certain rules that would help in implementing the resolutions of the people's congresses.

The leader said the role of the people's congresses secretariats is to table the files, observations and requests of the people's committees to members of the Basic People's Congresses in the Jamahiriyah so as to clarify its views regarding the issues dealt with in these files and observations.

Dealing with the method in which future internal issues are to be included on the general agenda, the leader said: "Any internal issue adopted by any Basic People's Congress shall be referred to the General Secretariat of the General People's Congress, which shall in turn circulate it to all Basic People's Congresses throughout the Jamahiriyah for debate in a true democratic method.

The function of the General People's Congress would be to unify points of view and formulate the decisions of the Basic People's Congresses.

Regarding the second point expressed by masses in demonstrations and public gatherings regarding issues imposed on us by the enemy, the leader said: "We should decide on how to face death and our fate. We should prepare for making sacrifices and showing resoluteness to stop the Zionist death wagon that is intent on destroying the Arab nation."

Colonel al-Qadhdhafi affirmed the seriousness of such issues and the responsibility of the people towards them, adding that the Zionist death wagon that destroyed Palestine, Lebanon and Egypt will overrun Syria and the rest of the Arab nation and that the people should seriously consider confrontation because they will be responsible for all gains or losses.

He said: "In the era of the masses, there is no hero who can single-handedly take such a grave decision. Only the entire body of the masses can decide their fate and take the decision that can safeguard it."

Colonel al-Qadhdhafi said: "Arab rulers cannot decide the fate of the Arab nation because the Arab masses are the true target of the enemy. There was no president or king among these who were killed in Lebanon. The decision affects every Arab citizen. It is the masses which the Zionist enemy seeks to destroy.

Colonel al-Qadhdhafi also dealt with the revolutionary programme that is to be formulated by the people's congresses for mass mobilisation to resist the inevitable approach of the Zionist death wagon. Colonel al-Qadhdhafi reminded his audience that the Zionists issued an appeal to 12 million Jews. This appeal falls within their expansionist plan that later calls for the settlement of Jews in the Arab nation, replacing the Arabs with a Zionist empire through which America would control the Arab nation, in implementation of the imperialist-Zionist schemes for annihilating the Arabs.

He said: "The train of Zionist death will continue if the Zionist advance remains at its current pace. We cannot wait for our annihilation. We are forced to confront our fate and stop this death wagon. Otherwise, our lives will be at the mercy of America. Such action of confrontation on our part requires total mobilisation which provides all means that will guarantee the defeat of the enemy."

Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi has pointed out the Revolutionary Committee's role concerning the revolutionary programme saying that their role is to educate the masses but not to convince them, because the masses have the freedom of choice. The leader said: "We are facing a dangerous war with America and the Israelis as well as local reaction. This danger should be shouldered by the people when you say that you have decided to live on bread and water only. This is also a serious decision because nobody can force you to live on bread and water unless you decide this yourself."

The leader also warned the Arab masses that the Zionist enemy with full U.S. backing is determined to destroy the Arabs and will inevitably try to do so. They have forced Egypt out of the battle and occupied Lebanon and are trying to destroy Syria. They will also come back to Egypt, and transform it into a colony and then expel the Moslems from there in order to put the Israelis there instead or leave the Copts on their own."

"The expansionist plans will continue because the Zionist enemy believes that the existence of the Arab nation contradicts its existence. The enemy has been entangled because of the establishment of their state in the heart of the Arab world. They will not give it up. They have no other alternative but to destroy the Arab nation, because its existence, even in the future, is a danger to their existence."

He went on to say, "the Zionists are determined to slaughter the Arabs even if they raise white flags. They very much fear the Arab race because it will destroy them. Therefore, the Zionists are trying every possible means to exterminate the Arabs. He added, "The revolutionary programme is the programme that includes the overall mobilization with high morale and determination for challenge. The Arab nation's situation is quite dangerous because of continuous Zionist expansionism which should be confronted. The world has become convinced that we have the right to move and destroy Israel because we are being subjected to a war of genocide.

The leader said, "The barbaric Zionist invasion of Lebanon and mass murders they carried out in Beirut has clearly uncovered the true face of the Zionists, America and the world. It has been proven that when a people are subjected to aggression, no one, not the Security Council, the Red Cross or any humanitarian organization in the world can come to their aid. The world can only condemn, but cannot do anything more."

This has been confirmed by events following the Zionist invasion of Lebanon. He said only force can stop the death wagon and that the Arabs are left with no choice but to face death by the use of force.

Regarding the revolutionary programme for providing the minimum level of food security and maximum level of armament, Colonel al-Qadhdhafi said: "We need to increase the national product to a maximum with which we will have to provide the minimum level of food security. Everything else will go to armament in order to confront the enemy and deliver blows that will avenge Arab honour."

Colonel al-Qadhdhafi added: "The Arabs have a rightful claim to Palestine because it is their land. They need power, however. The Arabs, moreover, have the human and material resources and we can form an army stronger than the Israelis. But we are in need of total mobilisation so that these capabilities are utilised for realising power.

Colonel al-Qadhdhafi said all energies and capabilities should be concentrated and reminded his audience that the children of Palestine and Lebanese women were killed before their own eyes. He continued: "Not one of us can accept such a fate. But the Zionists will not differentiate between man, woman or child and it is therefore our duty to arm ourselves."

In this respect, Colonel al-Qadhdhafi affirmed the importance of training and arming women so that they would fall as easy prey to enemies. [as received]

Colonel al-Qadhdhafi said: "The gangs and scums of treachery and subservience to America, Israel and Arab reaction should be exposed. Such people are wanted for justice and giving Libya a bad reputation because of what they smuggled abroad. We will not allow any trivial person to give Libya a bad reputation abroad. Such people are charged with high treason because for them collaboration with the Israelis and Americans. [sentence as received] They should be killed not because they constitute any danger, but because of their high treason.

He said, "It is the Libyan people's responsibility to liquidate such scums who are distorting Libya's image. The decision to liquidate them or not, and their return or not, should be decided by the Libyan people before the peoples of the world. Because, what will happen afterwards expresses the people's will. If the people decide to liquidate its enemy then the people cannot be described as terrorist."

He elaborated saying, "U.S. policy is a terrorist one, and so its government and intelligence. To say that the 200 million Americans are terrorists is something unacceptable.

BURUNDI

MITTERRAND ADDRESSES BUJUMBURA BANQUET 6 OCT

EA082300 Bujumbura Domestic Service in French 1100 GMT 7 Oct 82

[Speech by French President Francois Mitterrand in Bujumbura on 6 October at banquet hosted by President Jean-Baptiste Bagaza -- recorded]

[Excerpts] By starting my second visit to Burundi today I want to show solidarity with a country whose development is still impeded by the the natural barrier of being landlocked, a geographical position which has prevented so many travellers (?reaching you). I also know how much the erratic course of basic commodity prices -- as far as Burundi is concerned [words indistinct] especially coffee -- the burden of getting supplies of [word indistinct] products [words indistinct] are unbearable for you. [passage indistinct]

In this respect France is [words indistinct] the indefatigable advocate of a new, more equitable and less disorganized economic order in order to obtain from the international community more stable prices for your products. And you can rely on France to continue to fight in the same way against the selfishness of the (?multinationals) [words indistinct].

This international solidarity for which (?we are working) -- I have come to bear witness to it on behalf of France. For us it is not only a profession of faith, we have made it a priority for action. We expect to reach the goal we have set ourselves of bringing aid contributions to 0.7 percent of gross national product [GNP] by 1987-1988, as requested by the international institutions, of which 015 percent [zero quinze pour cent] will go to the least developed countries [applause]. This represents a considerable effort (?in view of the fact that) our starting point was 0.3 percent. Effective immediately, France has decided to set aside more than 20 billion francs as development aid, that is, 0.52 percent of our GNP. We want to act without further delay in the case of the least developed countries.

You know that at a time when the world's biggest aid donor countries have decided to freeze new aid, France has been one of the few countries to make an immediate statement to the effect that, far from following this example -- as it could have done, (?hiding behind these arguments) -- far from following the United States in this step, for example, we have maintained our (?contribution) at the level at which it was originally fixed, which means that France is playing a much greater part proportionally in the common effort.

[Passage indistinct] Of course development does not depend solely on the mobilization of finance. We must also take other conditions into account: economic stability and peace between peoples. As far as we are concerned the right to security of peoples and countries, both here and elsewhere, is a cardinal principle.

To come back to Africa for a while, the men and women of this continent are taking on their identity in dignified and honorable living conditions. I also know that you are working hard to build a policy of nonalignment, which brings you (?allies) in this world. This cannot be held against you. [passage indistinct]

The great industrialized powers are making a mistake [words indistinct] when they forget that their own interests in the short time between now and the end of the century coincide with their moral and human obligation. [passage indistinct] The industrialized world must become aware of something which is more than a duty, which is [word indistinct] of its own development in the coming years. [passage indistinct]

CHAD

HISSEIN HABRE RETURNS TO NDJAMENA FROM SUMMIT

AB111558 Paris AFP in French 1509 GMT 11 Oct 82

[Text] Ndjamana, 13 Oct (AFP) -- Hissein Habre, chairman of the Chadian Council of State, who returned to Ndjamena on Monday from Kinshasa where he attended the ninth French-African summit on Friday and Saturday, expressed satisfaction with the "calm atmosphere" that prevailed during the conference.

The discussions, he said, were mainly devoted to North-South cooperation between the African states and France and to security problems of the African countries.

Concerning Chad, Mr Habre said there was reason to be "very satisfied" with the results of the conference. Chad, he said, had the honor "not only of taking part in the summit but also to feature among the topics discussed" by the heads of state who met in Kinshasa.

"The heads of state of France and Africa perfectly understood what was at stake in the Chadian issue," said Mr Habre who felt that "more than ever" these countries were determined to make their contribution to the reconstruction of Chad. For President Habre "there were no dissonant voices" on Chad at the summit.

Describing his talks with French President Francois Mitterrand in Kinshasa as very fruitful, Mr Habre said that they had been held in "frankness and mutual understanding." He further said he had "great confidence" in the development of cooperation between Chad and France.

CONGO

MITTERRAND ARRIVES ON OFFICIAL VISIT 10 OCT

AB100934 Paris AFP in English 0920 GMT 10 Oct 82

[Text] Brazzaville, Oct. 10 (AFP) -- French President Francois Mitterrand arrived here today on a 24-hour official visit to the Congo, the first by a French president.

The president was met at the airport by President Denis Sassou-Nguesso.

Comments on OAU Crisis

AB110713 Paris AFP in English 0422 GMT 11 Oct 82

[Text] Brazzaville, Oct. 11 (AFP) -- French President Francois Mitterrand ended the last full day of his African tour in the Congo Sunday, with an urgent appeal for an end to the split within the Organization of African Unity.

Mr. Mitterrand -- the first French president to visit the Congo since its independence -- is to leave for Paris on Monday afternoon.

Speaking at a banquet hosted by President Denis Sassou-Nguesso he said to OAU members: "Have a reunion in a chosen capital, on the condition that you have lifted the mutual preconditions that have prevented you from agreeing."

"The industrialized countries (should) find an Africa as united as possible," Mr. Mitterrand added. The French president has had strong oriticism for the industrial world's attitude toward Africa in recent days.

The OAU's 19th summit, scheduled for August in Tripoli, was boycotted by a large number of countries that objected to the presence of the Saharan Arab Democratic Republic, the Polisario's name for the former Spanish Sahara.

Morocco and the Polisario have been fighting a war over the territory.

The stalemated OAU meeting lent added importance to the Franco-African summit that ended Saturday in Zaire. But Mr. Mitterrand said that the OAU was the only true pan-African body and that it must not be allowed to break up.

Mr. Mitterrand -- who also visited Burundi and Rwanda -- was the first French head of state to visit the Congo since its independence in 1960.

Mr. Mitterrand, who said he was thus seeking to "repair an injustice" toward Congo's leftist regime, was given a hero's welcome. In Brazzaville's Bacongo section near the Congo River, throngs massed around him and Mr. Sassou-Nguesso.

Congo -- which has close ties with the Soviet Union and other communist countries -- is seeking to improve its cultural and economic ties with the West, and France appears to be well-placed to take advantage.

There are two reasons for this. First, Congo was a French colony, and it was here that General Charles de Gaulle began planning decolonialization in 1944.

Second, France supplies 47.8 per cent of Congo's imports, and the Congo has become France's fifth-ranking foreign client. The French oil company elf-Aquitaine has a major role in the Congolese oil industry, which this year is expected to produce five million barrels.

But the Congo's eastward leanings do not appear to be changing. More than 1,000 Cuban troops remain here, and top military officers are Soviet-trained.

Mr. Mitterrand and Mr. Sassou-Nguesso are to hold a final morning of talks today before the French president leaves for Paris.

Departs 11 October

AB112043 Brazzaville Domestic Service in French 1230 GMT 11 Oct 82

[Excerpts] The president of the French Republic, Francois Mitterrand, ended his visit to our country at 1300. He is now on his way to his country. This visit ended with the consolidation of relations between Congo and France. From this visit we expected the strengthening of our ties which are already good, and a serious examination of the problems we face as the French president stated during the press conference which the heads of state gave this morning.

[Begin Mitterrand recording] I am very satisfied with my visit and I undertook this journey to make things better, and that is what has happened. I cannot say the contrary because I [word indistinct] do better.

Relations between the Congo and France are, as I said many times yesterday, old relations. They are well-established in the history of our two peoples. For a number of reasons we had to revive, reawaken, refresh and give a new impetus to a cooperation which commercially can be placed among the most important of French relations with African countries. There is nothing like the personal exchange of views.

I had two long discussions with President Sassou-Nguesso. We just had talks which were opened to include ministers and some associates.

We had a working session. We spent long hours together during which we took stock of and drew up a plan for this cooperation in the face of a world crisis which has been disturbing all countries. We decided to do everything possible to expand and to deepen this cooperation -- expand it to cover more sectors of common interest of development between the Congo and France and deepen it to deal with problems like the hydrocarbon issue. We must know where we are heading, not only in the commercial discussions which will be examined by the national Elf-aquitaine company and the Congolese state, but also to ensure the exploitation under the best conditions of already indentified resources without overlooking new technological discoveries which will enable us to exploit the earth's underground resources [passage indistinct] [end recording]

That was the general impression of the official visit paid to our country by President Francois Mitterrand. It is worth noting that the French head of state's last activity was a press conference which he gave this morning. For more than 75 minutes French President Francois Mitterrand and President Denis Sassou-Nguesso responded to questions put to them by the national and international press.

Responding to a question on his visit to our country, French President Francois Mitterrand said he was satisfied with the discussions he had with his Congolese counterpart. He explained that his satisfaction on this issue is due to the fact that our relations were established in the history of the French and Congolese peoples. On French-Congolese cooperation, French President Mitterrand said it would be expanded and deepened in various areas. The joint commission will meet on this issue on 18 January.

On a possible competition in our country between different partners -- from the East and from France -- President Mitterrand explained that there is no competition since France respects the liberty of its partners.

President Denis Sassou-Nguesso gave assurances that our country is independent and that our country's relations with other countries are based on mutual advantages, and that this principle will guide us in answering questions by other countries about our relations with France. On this issue, the chairman of the Central Committee explained that our relations with France are old and will be maintained. The Congo will continue to ask France to train our cadres and to supply us with equipment.

The chairman of the central committee gave specifications on the military policy of our country. President Sassou-Nguesso explained that our country in mindful of its security and of the revolutions, and that it will never [words indistinct] neighboring countries.

French President Francois Mitterrand also touched on the issue of security. The French president spoke at length on the specific issue of military (?balance) between the two superpowers. He expressed the hope that the arms race between the two superpowers will be [words indistinct].

The situation in the Middle East was also raised at this press conference. President Francois Mitterrand explained that the position of France is aimed at contributing to the restoration of peace to the region.

On southern Africa, particularly on Namibia, French President Francois Mitterrand said that France supports the activities of SWAPO and [words indistinct] South Africa's policies. President Mitterrand recognized Angola's freedom to choose its own means of ensuring its independence.

In conclusion, the French president explicitly expressed his optimism for the solution of the Namibian issue. However, he admitted that much effort is yet to be made on this issue.

Before going to the press conference, the two heads of state held their last private meeting.

At 2000 yesterday, President Denis Sassou-Nguesso offered a banquet in honor of his French counterpart and his entourage at [name indistinct]. During the ceremony, the Congolese head of state gave an adress in which he solemnly emphasized the immense interest of the Congolese people in the advent of the leftist government in France [word indistinct].

Before commenting on bilateral cooperation, the chairman of the Central Committee recalled the ties between the peoples of France and Congo. [passage indistinct]

ZAIRE

MOBUTU QUESTIONS FUTURE OF OAU MEETING

AB100948 Paris AFP in English 0358 GMT 10 Oct 82

[Text] Kinshasa, Oct. 10 (AFP) -- President Mobutu Sese Seko, apparently heartened by the success of the ninth Franco-African summit that ended here Saturday, has begun questioning whether there is any future for the 19th OAU meeting.

That OAU summit failed to gather a quorum last August in Tripoli, when a large number of African supporters of Morocco stayed away because of the presence of the Polisario Front's Saharan Democratic Arab Republic.

The failure of the OAU summit gave added significance to the meeting here, and -- coincidentally or otherwise -- swelled the number of countries represented to a record 37.

The summit was the largest in [word indistinct] this year, although many members said it was not meant as a substitute for the OAU meeting.

Speaking Saturday on Radio France International's Third World Press Club, Mr. Mobutu said most of the boycotting countries -- of which Zaire was one -- "insisted that Colonel al-Qadhdhafi tell them whether, yes or no," the Saharan Democratic Arab Republic will be present.

"If the answer is yes," Mr Mobutu said, "they will prefer to stay at home. If it's no, they will go there. I am not speaking for anybody, but these are things that are being said at present."

President Omar Bongo of Gabon, also said Saturday he would not go to an OAU summit if the Polisario grouping is present.

NIGERIA

SHAGARI MAKES 'MINOR' CABINET RESHUFFLE 8 OCT

AB081738 Lagos NAN in English 1730 GMT 8 Oct 82

[Text] Lagos, Oct 8 (NAN) -- President Shehu Shagari, in a minor reshuffle of his Cabinet today, has taken personal control of the Ministry of Defense.

A statement from the executive office of the president in Lagos said that the former minister of defence, Alhaji Akanbi Oniyangi, now takes charge of the Ministry of Industries.

Alhaji Mohammed Jega, former minister of state in the Ministry of Commerce, has been appointed the minister of aviation.

According to the statement, Alhaji Buba Ahmed, former minister of state and sole administrator, National Sports Commission, has been elevated to the status of minister of Cabinet rank (sports).

The statement said that the reshuffle followed the resignation of some ministers who intended to run for political office next year.

FOREIGN MINISTER CHANGES PARTY AFFILIATION

AB081431 Paris AFP in English 1338 GMT 8 Oct 82

[Text] Lagos, Oct 8 (AFP) -- Nigerian foreign minister Ishaya Audu has joined the ruling National Party (NPN), press reports said here today.

Mr Audu, a founder member of the Nigerian People's Party (NPP) resigned his membership of that party at the break-up of the accord between the NPN and NPP under which both parties jointly ran federal affairs.

When that accord collapsed last year the NPP directed all its party members in the government to resign their appointments. However, President Shehu Shagari rejected Mr Audu's resignation and that of one other minister of state.

Today's reports said that Mr Audu had told a press conference that his decision to join the NPN was not influenced by any member of the party. "That I have decided to do so is entirely my own decision and entirely my own responsibility", he said.